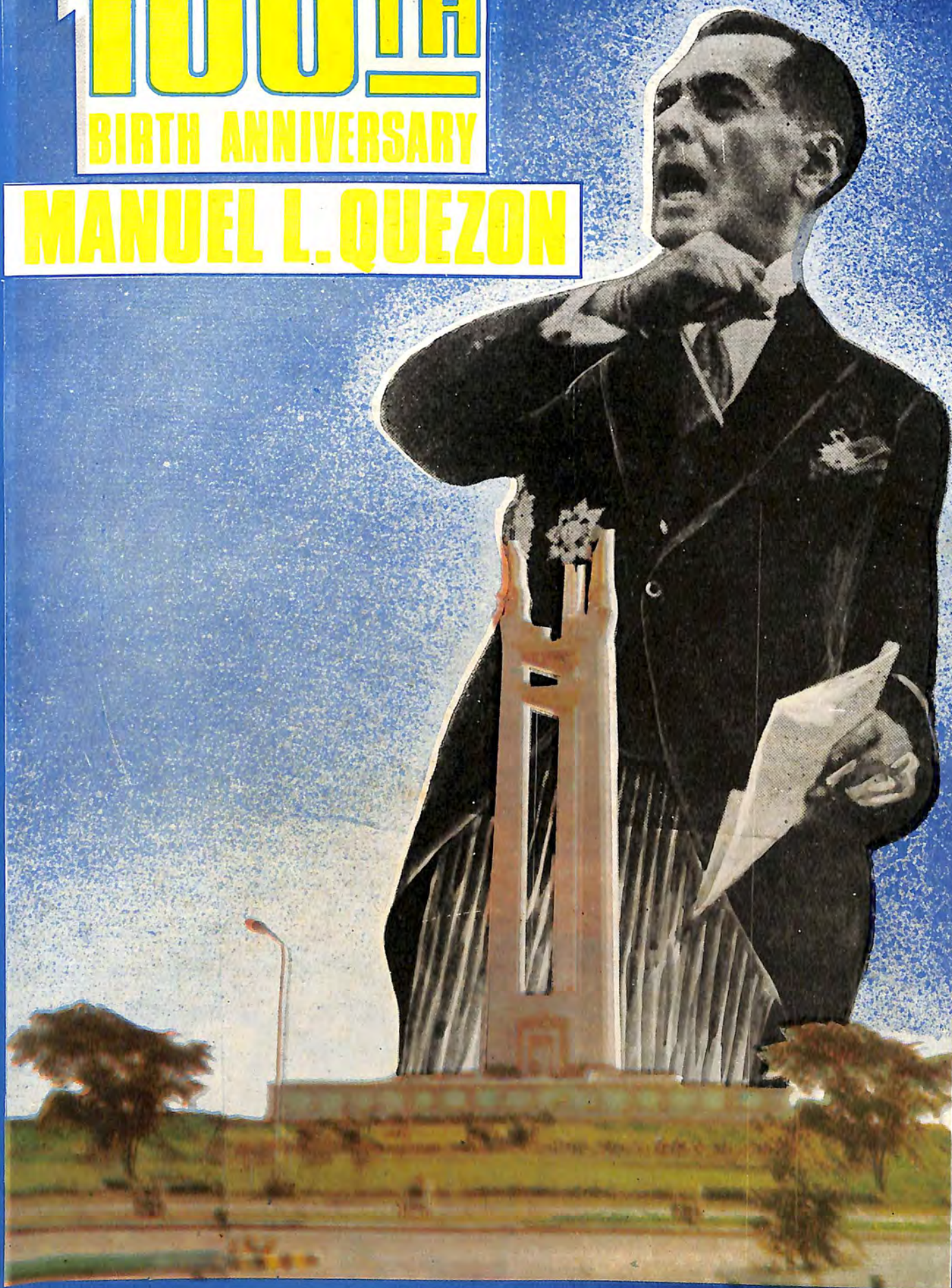


# 100TH

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

## MANUEL L. QUEZON





*" A leader of the masses who has invariably emerged triumphant from political tempests quieting them with the magic trident of his personality; a hero in peace, as others had been heroes during the propaganda days and the revolution, who has by his glorious acts written his name forever into the history of our libertarian struggles — there, gentlemen, you have the silhouette of the leader, MANUEL L. QUEZON."*

Claro M. Recto  
President  
1934 Constitutional Convention



**1978 Manuel L. Quezon  
Centennial Souvenir Program**

## FOREWORD

**T**he nation marks today the 100th birth anniversary of one of its distinguished sons --  
**MANUEL L. QUEZON.**

*Here in Quezon City, we remember him as the founder of this sanctuary of more than 1.4 million Filipinos. But to the nation, he is more than just a national leader after whom a city and a province was named. To those who knew the ravages of war, and to the youth who cherish freedom and dignity of a people, Quezon is a hero, a legend whose image lives for as long as the national flag reigns supreme over Philippine skies.*

*As a fitting tribute, the 1978 Manuel L. Quezon Centennial Committee has deemed it proper to put out this souvenir program on the late president's life, his achievements, and the memoirs of those who were close to him. We have tried as faithfully as possible to record the events in his life — as a restless youth, a proud father, a fiery nationalist, a brilliant statesman, a great leader — hoping that we can understand him better and inspire us in our quest for nationalism.*

*For us whose independence has been his greatest concern, we can offer no less than to remember him with the greatest esteem and honor that a people can give to its dedicated leaders. Let us celebrate his exploits. Let us be guided by his principles. Let us cherish his ideals.*

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GERARDO G. MAGAT'.

GERARDO G. MAGAT  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Souvenir Program



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**MANUEL I QUEZON**





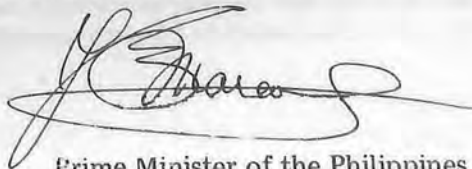
**TANGGAPAN NG PANGULO NG PILIPINAS  
(OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES)**

**M E S S A G E**

*On the centennial birth anniversary of President Manuel L. Quezon, we take occasion to pay homage to a foremost statesman, patriot, and leader. Although Quezon was not privileged to witness the full flowering of our independence, we remember him as one who endowed us with an unshakeable faith in ourselves and who instilled in us the profound conviction that we can be masters of our own national destiny.*

*We, who are heirs to the visions and struggles of Quezon, must protect our freedom to chart our own future. As we march along the road that takes us fatefully to political normalization, we have much to learn from the counsel of sustained and effective political action so eminently exemplified by Quezon. For we are now faced in essence by the challenge of national self-strengthening, of building the structures of a new political order on the basis of what we have achieved.*

*It is incumbent upon us all to nurture our independence in a manner that would fulfill our deepest aspirations and promote national development. And our commitment to this task will alone determine whether or not we are true and worth heirs of the visions and struggles of Manuel L. Quezon. I trust that this occasion will inspire us to draw wisdom from his deeds and teachings as we face the modern challenge of building a vigorous, dynamic, and prosperous society.*

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the Prime Minister of the Philippines at the time. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'F' and 'M'.

Prime Minister of the Philippines





*We the citizens of this Republic are indebted to our forbears and leaders for our high privileges.*

*We live in the dignity of a sovereign state. We shape our lives, our destinies, our national identity by our own hands.*

*Democratic processes are maintained through the instrumentality of a government shaped by ourselves. Notwithstanding critical situations in our national life, civil liberties are preserved and guaranteed to us by our fundamental laws. Our police and prosecution systems are not perfect. But in our judicial system delays to defeat the ends of justice are minimized, the rule of law is upheld, the majesty of human rights is respected. Our government leadership is bounded to us; its policies and objectives are responsive to our paramount interests.*

*We are thus still supreme. Tyranny is not brooked; freedom is maintained; dictation, especially by mob action, is abhorred. We live in peace. Dissidence is controlled. We go about our tasks in tranquility. We look to the future with security.*

*We have not attained the economic millenium; but with God's blessings, no one in our country dies of hunger; no one goes about naked; no one has no roof over his head. We have a government that is advancing the economic, the social and the cultural well-being of our people.*

*There are not very many nations on the face of the earth where these blessings may be had as the normal conditions of life vouchsafed to their inhabitants.*

*We often forget to remember and be grateful to those who lived lives dedicated to the maintenance of our freedoms, the attainment of national progress, the advancement of the national economy, the promotion of our well-being.*

*One of these men of revered memory, to whom we are dedicating this Centennial Year, was Manuel L. Quezon.*

*All facets of national development he conceived were achievable through one inspiration — nationalism.*

*"Nationalism," he said, "is a tremendous force that strengthens and solidifies a nation, that activates national interest, that preserves the best traditions of the past, that adds zest to the ambition of enlarging the inheritance of the future, that enriches the sum total of mankind's cultural, moral and national possessions through the individual and characteristic contribution of each people."*

PIO PEDROSA  
Chairman



*On the occasion of the observance of the first centennial celebration of the birth of the late President Manuel L. Quezon, it is my fervent hope that our people whom he served so loyally and with great distinction will always remember the great ideas that came from his mind and the great deeds that he achieved for all of us. Quezon spent the last four decades of his eventful and fruitful life in the service of his country and people while holding the following positions: provincial fiscal, provincial governor, delegate to the First Philippine Assembly, Resident Commissioner to the U.S.A., Senate President, and finally as First President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.*

*President Quezon left many and imperishable legacies to his fellow citizens among which may be mentioned his demonstrated courage in fighting for our freedom and independence in peace or war, his brilliant record as a young practising lawyer, his vigorous campaign for Philippine independence law in the United States of America from 1909 to his death in 1944, his skill and wisdom in the performance of his duties and responsibilities as Senate President and subsequently President of the Philippines, his dynamic and inspiring leadership not only of his political party but also of the country, his ardent nationalism, his unquestioned honesty and integrity as a public official, and his absolute loyalty and total dedication to the welfare and happiness of his beloved Fatherland.*

*It is also my hope that our people will continue to remember the great Quezon in the years to come and will forever bear in mind his appeal to all Filipinos, thus:*

*"My fellow citizens: There is one thought which I want you always to have in mind, and that is: that you are Filipinos, that the Philippine is your country and the only country God has given you; that you must keep it for yourselves, for your children, and your children's children, until the world is no more; and that you must live for it and die for it, if necessary.*

*The Philippines of tomorrow will be the country of plenty, of happiness, and of freedom. It will be a Philippines with her head raised in the midst of the West Pacific, mistress of her own destiny, holding in her hand the torch of freedom and democracy and pointing the way to the teeming millions of Africa and Asia now suffering under alien rule; a Philippines, heir in the Orient to the teachings of Christianity; and a republic of virtuous and righteous men and women, all working together for a better world than the one we have at present."*

*Esteban A. De Ocampo*

ESTEBAN A. DE OCAMPO  
Chairman and Executive Director





Today marks the 100th birth anniversary of one of the great men who dedicated their lives to the founding of an independent nation in this land — **MANUEL L. QUEZON**.

More than four decades ago, while the nation was in the throes of preparing the foundation of this Republic, President Quezon declared, "My task is not only to set up a government of the Commonwealth that will last for ten years but to lay the foundation for the government of an independent state that will last as long as the world lasts."

To President Quezon, it was always "Country above everything else." His greatest desire was to see the Philippine flag fly high and supreme over Philippine skies. Although he passed away just when the dream he relentlessly pursued was almost a reality, he left a priceless legacy of love for freedom and belief in our capability to govern ourselves.

Today, we are one people united in spirit, vibrating with life and purpose and optimistic of the future because the foundation of this Republic is strong as ever and, with the Almighty's help, "will last as long as the world lasts."

What better tribute could we offer him, whom we owe a lot of what we are now?

*Adelina S. Rodriguez*  
(Mrs.) ADELINA S. RODRIGUEZ  
City Mayor

## QUEZON'S CODE OF CITIZENSHIP AND ETHICS

1. *Have Faith in the Divine Providence that guides the destinies of men and nations.*
2. *Love your country for it is the home of your people, the seat of your affection and the source of your happiness and well-being. Its defense is your primary duty. Be ready to sacrifice and die for it if necessary.*
3. *Respect the Constitution which is the expression of your sovereign will. The government is your government. It has been established for your safety and welfare. Obey the laws and see that they are observed by all and that public officials comply with their duties.*
4. *Pay your taxes willingly and promptly. Citizenship implies not only rights but obligations.*
5. *Safeguard the purity of suffrage and abide by the decisions of the majority.*
6. *Love and respect your parents. It is your duty to serve them gratefully and well.*
7. *Value your honor as you value your life. Poverty with honor is preferable to wealth with dishonor.*
8. *Be truthful and be honest in thought and in action. Be just and charitable, courteous but dignified in your dealings with your fellowmen.*
9. *Lead a clean and frugal life. Do not indulge in frugality or pretense. Be simple in your dress and modest in your behavior.*
10. *Live up to the noble traditions of our people. Venerate the memory of our heroes. Their lives point the way to duty and honor.*
11. *Be industrious. Be not afraid or ashamed to do manual labor. Productive toil is conducive to economic security and adds to the wealth of the nation.*
12. *Rely on your efforts for your progress and happiness. Be not easily discouraged. Persevere in the pursuit of your legitimate ambitions.*
13. *Do your work cheerfully, thoroughly, and well. Work badly done is worse than work undone. Do not leave for tomorrow what you can do today.*
14. *Contribute to the welfare of your community and promote social justice. You do not live for yourselves and your family alone. You are a part of society to which you owe definite responsibilities.*
15. *Cultivate the habit of using goods made in the Philippines. Patronize the products and trades of your countrymen.*
16. *Use and develop our natural resources and conserve them for posterity. They are an inalienable heritage of our people. Do not traffic with your citizenship.*



**MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA**

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**PROCLAMATION NO. 1726**

**DECLARING 1978 AS MANUEL L. QUEZON NATIONAL CENTENNIAL  
YEAR AND DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL  
INSTITUTE TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE CELEBRATION.**

WHEREAS, the year 1978 marks the birth centenary of the late MANUEL LUIS QUEZON, first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and one of the foremost leaders and statesmen of our people;

WHEREAS, President Quezon had served our country with great distinction in peace and war from the Revolutionary period in 1898 to the time of his death in 1944;

WHEREAS, Quezon rendered signal service to our country and people as provincial fiscal, provincial governor, delegate to the First Philippine Assembly, Resident Commissioner to the United States, President of the Philippines Senate, and finally as President of the Philippines (1935-1944);

WHEREAS, it is important that the valuable contributions of this great leader to the political emancipation of our people and the promotion of our national progress during his stewardship of the government be inculcated in the minds of our citizenry, particularly the youth of the land;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the spirit of service and self-sacrifice demonstrated by President Quezon should always be remembered by the present and future generations of Filipinos; and

WHEREAS, it is of prime importance that the heroic deeds and unquestioned loyalty and patriotism of this man from Baler should be projected and emulated;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare 1978 as Manuel L. Quezon Centenary Year and designate the National Historical Institute to take charge of the celebration and to undertake the following activities in coordination with the Executive Committee created for the purpose:

1. Prepare the general program of the centenary and submit a copy of same to the President of the Philippines for his information;
2. Promote and direct commemorative celebration throughout the Philippines;
3. Collect, edit and publish the important speeches and state papers of President Quezon that have not yet been published;
4. Erect a fitting and inspiring monument or memorial in honor of President Quezon in places where it should be erected;
5. Conduct a nationwide contest in painting and sculpture and in music that shall appropriately and properly honor Quezon;
6. Initiate and sponsor the holding of a three-day Congress or Convention in Quezon City to the building and progress of the Filipino nation; and
7. Coordinate with the Bureau of Posts relative to the issuance of commemorative stamps and cause the issuance of commemorative medals for the Quezon Centenary;

It is hereby authorized to accept or receive donations and other conveyance of funds, materials and services gratuitously for use in the furtherance of its purposes and objectives as well as to conduct fund drives subject to the provisions of Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 373 dated January 9, 1974.

The Institute is likewise empowered to call on any department, bureau, office or agency of the government, including government owned or controlled corporations, for such assistance as it may need in the discharge of its function relative to the centenary celebration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this 31st of March in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy eight.

(SGD.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS  
President of the Philippines

By the President:

(SGD.) JUAN C. TUVERA  
Presidential Assistant



**MALACAÑANG  
MANILA**

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 502**

**CREATING AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE  
PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE 1978 MANUEL L. QUEZON NATIONAL CENTENNIAL  
YEAR.**

WHEREAS, the year 1978 marks the birth centenary of the late MANUEL LUIS QUEZON, first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and one of the foremost leaders and statesmen of our country; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed proper and fitting to commemorate his centennial year with appropriate activities and/or ceremonies to impress our people of the invaluable contributions of this great leader to the political emancipation of our nation and the enhancement of our national growth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby constitute and create an Executive Committee to formulate plans and devise ways and means for the successful execution of appropriate activities and/or ceremonies for the commemoration of the 1978 Manuel L. Quezon National Centennial Year. The Committee shall be composed of the following:

Hon. Pio Pedrosa	Chairman
Hon. Jorge B. Vargas	Co-Chairman
Hon. Emilio Abello	"
Hon. Aniceto Alcalá,	"
Governor of Quezon Province	"
Hon. Adelina S. Rodriguez	"
Mayor of Quezon City	
Hon. Luis Etcubanez,	Vice-Chairman
Lieutenant Governor,	
Sub-province of Aurora	"
Hon. Estrello T. Ong,	
Mayor of Baler, Quezon	

Hon. Jose Roño, Minister of Local Government and Community Development	Vice Chairman
Hon. Juan Manuel, Minister of Education and Culture	"
Hon. Cesar Virata, Minister of Finance	Member
Hon. Juan Ponce Enrile, Minister of National Defense	"
Mrs. Zenaida Quezon Avanceña	"
Mr. Manuel L. Quezon, Jr.	"
Rev. Pacifico Ortiz	"
Mr. Serapio Canceran	"
Hon. Esteban de Ocampo	"
Three other members appointed by the President of the Philippines,	

The Committee shall coordinate with the National Historical Institute which is designated in a separate proclamation to coordinate with the Committee in the celebration of the centennial year. The Chairman is hereby empowered to request any agency of the Government to assist in the discharge of the Committee's functions and duties and to designate such personnel it may require for the purpose.

The Budget Commission is hereby directed to appropriate the amount of P500,000 out of the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated to carry out the commemorative activities and/or ceremonies the Committee will undertake.

Done in the City of Manila, this 30th day of April, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.

(SGD.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS  
President of the Philippines

By the President:

(SGD.) JUAN C. TUVERA  
Presidential Assistant





# Manuel Luis Quezon

1878-1944

One hundred years ago, while churchbells were ringing to usher the feast day of San Luis, a child was born to a Spanish speaking couple in Baler, Tayabas. The child was christened Manuel Luis, the second name after the town's patron saint.

The mother, Maria Dolores Molina, was a beautiful Spanish mestiza and a school teacher for girls. She was a devout Catholic and she wished her son would someday become a priest. The father, Lucio Quezon, was a retired sergeant of the regiments of the Spanish Army and a school teacher for boys. He wished his son would someday become a soldier.

The couple had a joint income of P12.00 monthly and owned a 2-acre rice land. Being the only Filipino family who spoke Spanish and could converse with the three Spanish officials in the town, they were highly regarded in the community.

The young Manuel learned his first lessons in Spanish, arithmetic and catechism from his mother. From his father, he learned lessons in honesty — "A liar deserves no respect. Always tell the truth regardless of the consequences" — which had become his guiding principle in life.

When he was seven years old, he was sent to live with Father Teodoro Fernandez, a Franciscan friar, to study religion, geography, history and Latin. When Father Fernandez was transferred to Manila, Manuel, who was then nine years old, went and stayed with the good priest at the Franciscan convent where he worked as a messboy while studying at San Juan de Letran College. When Father Fernandez was reassigned to the province, Manuel transferred to his father's cousin. He didn't stay long in that house because of the distance to the school which he had to walk four times daily. He entered as a boarder at Letran.

Young Manuel's penchant for breaking rules always brought him to an audience with his teachers. His honesty, however, always spared him from the rod — the common means of discipline during those days. He excelled as an athlete in track and field, a training which proved useful during his guerilla days.

With his diploma in Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude safely tucked in his baggage, he went home to Baler one summer vacation only to find his mother ill with tuberculosis. Upon his mother's death, his father revealed to him their financial indebtedness. Unless he found means to support himself through college, he just had to stop. When classes reopened Manuel went back to Manila accompanied by his father. He went to the University of Santo Tomas and presented himself to the Director of Interns, Father Tamayo, who had been his professor in Letran. He was granted free tuition, room and board in exchange for his tutoring services to students who needed coaching in Math. Assured of

Manuel's capability to handle crises in life, Lucio Quezon took him aside and said, "My son, I shall be going back home in two hours. I won't bother you with any advice. Just be good to your fellowmen. No matter how high your station in life may be, never forget that you came from poor parents and that you belong to the poor. Don't forsake them, whatever happens."

That proved to be the last conversation between father and son for when Quezon went home to Baler after the occupation of Manila by the U.S. Army, he found out that his father together with his brother had been murdered by the bandits.



*The nipa hut in Baler where Manuel L. Quezon was born.*

#### Law Studies

At UST, he established friendship with Sergio Osmeña, Sr. and Vicente Madrigal, two friends who later on played important roles in his life. He also made acquaintance with Emilio Jacinto who became the secretary of the Katipunan and Flaviano Yenko who became a general in Aguinaldo's Army.

During his first year of Law at UST, there was an incident that almost sidetracked his studies in Law. There was an old Dominican priest who for reasons known only to him advised Quezon to take up a course in dogmatic theology. Remembering his beloved mother, he gave the advice a try. The professor in dogmatic theology was Father Vaquero,



formerly his teacher at Letran and who therefore knew him too well. Father Vaquero's reaction upon seeing Quezon in his room was that of disbelief. When Quezon, in a voice that he purposely made to sound meek as was expected of a would-be priest, explained that he was going to study priesthood, Father Vaquero roared in laughter and said "Who deceived you into believing that you can be a priest? Get out of here and proceed with your law course." And out went the ex-future priest.

### Philippine Revolution

When the U.S. Army occupied Manila, law classes were closed and Quezon went home. (That was when he found out about his father's death). The Americans won the war and a peace treaty between Spain and the United States was signed transferring sovereignty over the Philippines from the former to the latter. This created unrest among the Filipino revolutionaries who were made to believe that if the Filipinos helped the Americans against the Spaniards, independence would be granted by the United States. Upon signing of the treaty, McKinley created and sent the First Philippine Commission to the Philippines with the instructions that their purpose was not to subjugate the Filipinos but to educate and train them in the art of self-government.

Meanwhile Emilio Aguinaldo, leader of the Philippine revolution, convened at Malolos the first Filipino Congress and the Philippine Republic was formally proclaimed. Hostilities between Americans and Filipinos worsened.

On February 4, 1899, Manuel L. Quezon made the decision that from then on he would cease to be a mere observer in his country's struggle for independence. He went to Villacorta in Pantabangan and offered his services. He was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant. He was swiftly promoted to 1st Lt. by Gen. Llanera for capturing highwaymen roaming the town of Aliaga, Cabanatuan. Later, Gen. Aguinaldo transferred his seat of government to Cabanatuan and Quezon was detailed to form part of his staff. One of the assignments he successfully carried out was to accompany Gen. Benito Natividad, one of the right hand men of Gen. Luna, who was wounded in the battle of Calumpit, to Bayambang in a hammock. For this, he was immediately promoted to Captain. Bored with office work and ashamed of having reaching the rank of Captain without participating in actual battle, he requested for an assignment to the front. He was assigned to Gen. Mascardo in Porac, Pampanga and there he was an eyewitness to the lopsidedness of the war. He later wrote, "Filipino courage matched old Spanish arms but the Filipino-American war was no war. It was slaughter, plain and simple." Malaria epidemic hit the Filipino forces in the jungles of Bataan and Quezon was not spared.

When news of Aguinaldo's capture by Gen. Funston in Palanan reached Gen. Mascardo, Quezon was ordered to verify the report. Thus one early morning in April 1901, Quezon, haggard and emaciated, surrendered to Lt. Miller at the slope of Mariveles mountain. Lt. Miller brought him to Malacañang where Gen. Arthur MacArthur (father of Douglas MacArthur) showed him Gen. Aguinaldo - a prisoner, defeated and helpless. "I felt the world crumble before me," he said of his poignant meeting with his chief.

While trying to adjust his life to the new era, he stayed with the Alberts at Ronquillo St. in Sta. Cruz. One day, without warning nor explanation, he was arrested and imprisoned at Postigo gate, a dungeon where about thirty Filipinos practically slept on top of each other. When he was released, he was a sick man suffering of a nervous breakdown. He was confined at San Juan de Dios. Once he recovered, he landed a job as clerk in Monte de Piedad.

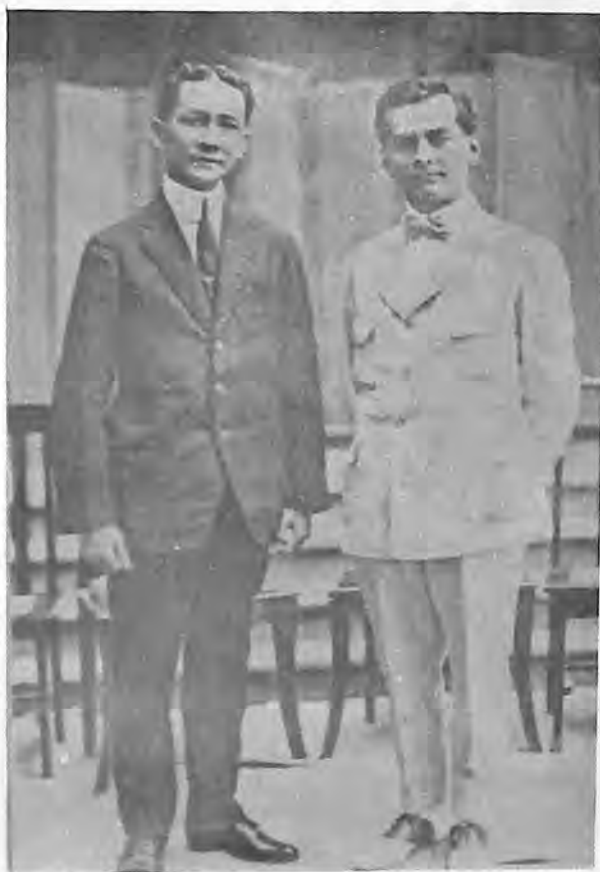
#### Law Practice

In April 1903, Quezon was admitted to the Bar. (The American government enacted a law allowing anyone who has finished three years of law studies to practice law after passing the bar exams.) He joined the law firm of Francisco Ortigas with a starting salary of P150.00 a month plus the right to accept his clients. Not long after he opened his own law office and was swamped with clients. He set a double standard policy with his fees: the rich he charged dearly and the poor he served *gratis*.

In October 1903, he went back to Tayabas to take up a case against a man who falsified his father's signature to acquire their 2-acre farm. He won the case. He was offered the post of provincial fiscal in Mindoro and after six months in that place he was transferred to Tayabas.



*Quezon as a revolutionary officer.*



*Senate President Manuel L. Quezon and Speaker of the House Sergio Osmeña, Sr.*

### The Mason Case

While fiscal of Tayabas he handled a celebrated case which involved a lawyer, Mr. Mason (a fictitious name), who wanted to register in his name different deeds of sale of agricultural lands. (At that time, fiscals were at the same time registrars of deeds) Quezon took the papers but due to the volume of work he was preoccupied with he was not able to attend to it. A week later, Mr. Mason's secretary inquired about the papers and Quezon told him he has not attended to it yet. One hour later Mr. Mason stormed into Quezon's office and demanded that he register the deeds of sale without delay. The Quezonian temper came to force: he got hold of an inkstand and ordered Mason out of the office or else he'll smash the thing on his face. When Mason left, Quezon examined the papers and found to his consternation that the documents covered sales of thousands acres of lands planted with about 50,000 coconut trees including 2 to 3 hundred working animals and the total cost of the properties exceeded P60,000.00. This led him to investigate and he found out that the owners of these properties were in jail. Mr. Mason had offered to defend them for P300.00 each, the amount to be paid once they out of jail but as a guarantee he demanded their land with the coconut trees and working animals. They had signed the documents without understanding a word in it.

Quezon filed 25 estafa cases against Mr. Mason. Mr. Mason got four of the best lawyers in Manila to defend him. The case attracted attention because it was the first time since the American occupation that an American and a lawyer at that has been the subject for prosecution by a Filipino prosecutor. Quezon finally won the case and Mr. Mason would have been imprisoned had he not escaped from the country.

When Quezon ran for Governor of Tayabas in 1905, he won overwhelmingly. The same happened when he ran for a seat in the Philippine Assembly in 1907. He was voted Floor Leader (Sergio Osmeña was the Speaker of the House) and was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

### Resident Commissioner

**D**uring the American regime, the Philippines was represented in the United States Congress by two Resident Commissioners. Quezon was interested in this position. When the Philippine Assembly received an invitation to the International Congress of Navigation in Russia, Quezon volunteered thinking that the experience would get him nearer to the post of Resident Commissioner. He arrived in Russia too late for the Congress but the trip gave him a glimpse of the conditions in other countries like Japan, Berlin, Paris and the U.S.

At the last session of the Philippine Assembly, he was elected Resident Commissioner to the U.S. to succeed Pablo Ocampo. On December 24, 1909, he arrived in Washington to assume the post he coveted most.

### English Lessons

**U**ntil he became Resident Commissioner, Quezon didn't know how to speak English. His education was all under Spanish friars and his anti-American feelings kept him determinedly privy from English.

During his term as Fiscal of Tayabas the American governor of Tayabas, Col. Bandholtz, offered to teach him English and they sat down for a few lessons which made little progress due to the pressures of their work.

As Resident Commissioner he realized that his language handicap was a major obstacle in the performance of his duties. He hired a teacher to give him lessons in grammar but after fifteen lessons he figured it would take him a long time to be able to speak English following the standard method of learning. He was impatient because he wanted to deliver his first speech in the U.S. Congress. He embarked on a conscientious self-study with the aid of Spanish-English dictionary, newspapers, magazines and books. He attended social affairs without the aid of an interpreter.

One day in May, five months after his arrival, he stood before he members of the U.S. Congress and eloquently conveyed the Filipino people's earnest desire for independence, "Ask the bird, Sir, who is enclosed in a golden cage if he would prefer his cage and the care of the owner to the freedom of the skies and the allure of the forest."





*President Quezon before the  
U.S. Congress.*

#### Jones Law

**Q**uezon's most significant achievement while Resident Commissioner was the passage of the Jones Act which provided that the Filipino people will be granted independence as soon as a stable government is established in the Philippines.

He resigned as Resident Commissioner and without engaging in a political campaign he was elected Senator and eventually Senate President.

In 1918, Quezon headed the first Independence Mission to U.S. to submit to the U.S. Congress the petition of the Filipino people for independence. Aboard the ship was his cousin-fiancee Aurora Aragon. When the *Shinyo Maru* docked in Hongkong in December 14, 1918, Manuel L. Quezon and Aurora Aragon got married in a simple ceremony

at the American Consulate. Three days later, a simple church wedding was solemnized at the Catholic Cathedral in Hongkong.

#### Doña Aurora

**T**he quiet wedding was the culmination of 12 years of engagement. Way back during the American occupation of Manila when Quezon went home to Baler and learned that his father passed away, he stayed with his mother's sister, Zeneida, who had two daughters, one of whom was Aurora. Later, when he became Fiscal of Tayabas, he returned the kindness by inviting his widowed Aunt Zeneida and her daughters to live with him. Aurora was then a blooming teenager who had ambitions of becoming a teacher. Quezon sent her to the Philippine Normal School in Manila.

Quezon was already governor of Tayabas when he and Aurora realized they were in love. Doña Zeneida objected to their marriage and it was only the year after the matriarch of the family had passed away that they were able to follow the dictates of their heart. Doña Aurora proved to be a perfect wife, capable and understanding, to the debonair and dynamic Quezon. In his book, the *Good Fight*, he wrote, "Twenty four years of married life with the same wife have proved that matrimonial happiness does not depend upon the noise of the wedding. Nor for that matter upon closing one's eyes to the sight of other beauties and running away from their company during the period of one's engagement."

The couple had four children: Maria Aurora (who in April 1949, died in an ambush together with Doña Aurora and brother-in-law, Philip Buencamino III), Maria Zeneida (now Mrs. Avanceña), Luisa Corazon Paz (who died in infancy) and Manuel, Jr.

*The first First Family in Malacañang. From left, younger daughter Maria Zeneida; First Lady, Doña Aurora; elder daughter Maria Aurora; President Quezon and son Manuel, Jr.*





*President Quezon and Doña Aurora at the deck of the Presidential yacht "Casiana"*



*Doña Aurora and children at their Pasay home.*



### Road to Malacañang

**T**he years that preceded his presidency were years of unceasing campaign for Philippine independence (See Quezon and The Campaign for Philippine Independence, page 41). When he returned home from the U.S. on April 30, 1934 after the Tydings-Mc-Duffie Law which created the Commonwealth and set the date of Philippine Independence to July 4, 1946 had been approved by Pres. Roosevelt, he was given a hero's welcome and his overwhelming victory in the Presidential election that year was proof of his tremendous popularity.

On the morning of November 15, 1935, before the high dignitaries of the U.S. government and thousands of Filipino people who came for the historic occasion, Manuel Luis Quezon, newly inducted first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines exhorted his countrymen to "help build a government that must not only satisfy the passing needs of the hour but also the exacting demands of the future."

### Laying the Foundations

**S**ave for the difference in circumstances, the Quezon that entered the portals of Malacañang in November 1935 was not unlike the Quezon who faced Gen. Arthur Mac Arthur in April 1901. He was still the same soldier locked in his country's struggle for independence. He was still the same man aflame with aspirations and vision for the Filipino nation.

This time, however, he didn't feel "the world crumbling before him." He saw a bright horizon beckoning the nation that had bestowed upon him its supreme trust and confidence.

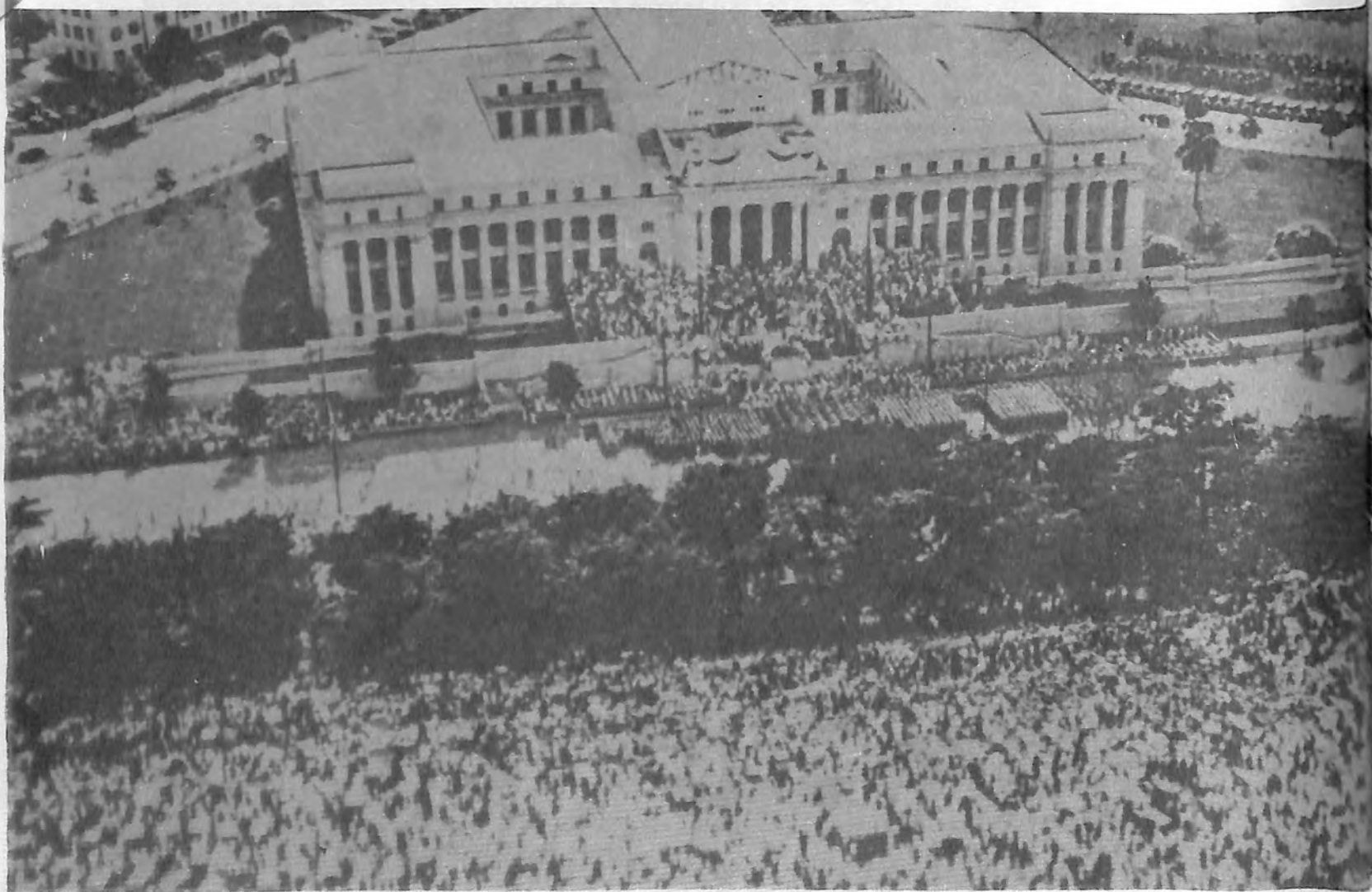
The policies and laws that were enacted during his administration reflected his areas of concern, his sensitive grasp of the people's sentiments and his uncanny foresight to the needs of the future generation.

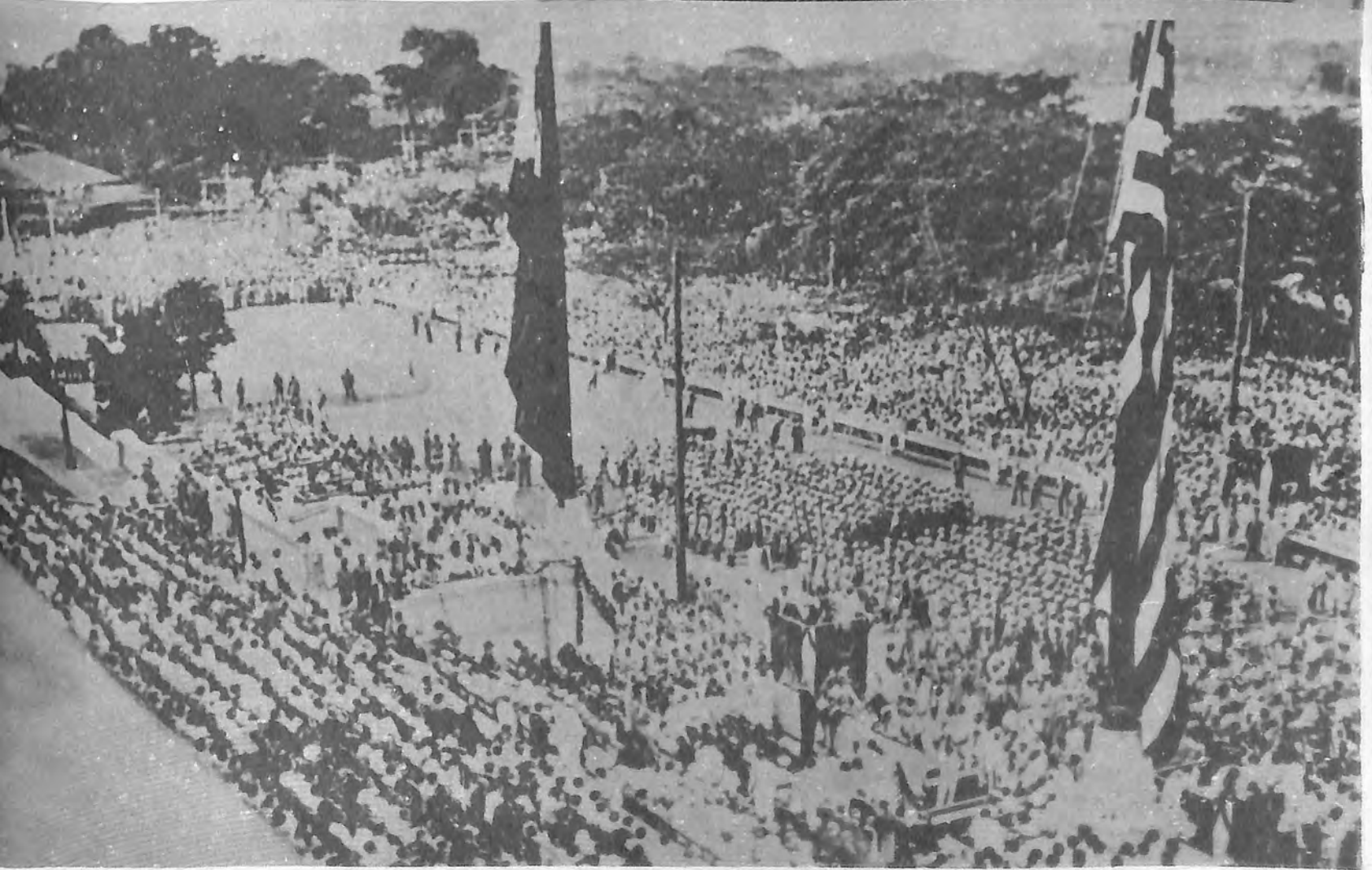
The first law of the Philippine Commonwealth was the National Defense Act which provided the establishment of a national defense force. President Quezon asked Gen. Douglas MacArthur, then the chief of staff of the U.S. Army to be the adviser of the Philippine Commonwealth.

Steps to improve the plight of the common man were undertaken which resulted in the enactment of the Minimum Wage Act and the Eight-Hour Labor Act. The first fixed the minimum wage at P1.00 a day and the second provided that workers should work only eight hours a day daily in order that they can have time for recreation and rest.

Social justice was one cause Quezon unceasingly championed. He pioneered the land reform concept whereby large estates were purchased by the government and resold to the tenants in small lots on easy terms of payment.

*November 15, 1935. Manuel L. Quezon taking his oath as the first President of the Philippine Commonwealth. Below, the crowd that witnessed the historic occasion.*





He gave full support to woman suffrage: "One reason which motivated me to sign the Woman Suffrage bill is the thought which I hate in the future, when I am dead, my daughters will receive orders from the government of the Philippines on matters affecting their families, their lives, their happiness and yet they will not have any say on the matter."

He designated Tagalog as the basis for a national language: "We may borrow for a time the language of other people but we cannot truly possess a national language except through the adoption and use of one of our own."

On November 11, 1941, the Filipino people went to the polls for the second time. Quezon was reelected for another term.

The Filipino nation's journey towards stability and independence was interrupted one morning by an infamous act that dragged the whole Asia and for that matter the whole world, into turmoil.

#### The Second World War

December 8, 1941. While Pres. Quezon was in Baguio with his daughter Zeneida, son Nonong and his private secretary Serapio D. Cance-ran (see page 35 ), Secretary Vargas called up from Manila to announce the shattering news that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. Pres. Quezon couldn't believe it but when Japanese planes roared over Philippine sky and bombed Camp John Hay, he knew it was only the beginning of grimmer events to come.

Col Nieto arrived late in the afternoon to fetch the President and reported that Clark Air Base had been bombed. They passed by the Quezon Family farm in Arayat, Pampanga and picked up Doña Aurora and Baby. Upon arrival in their Marikina house he learned that Nichols Air Base had also been bombed. He immediately convened the Council of State. The meeting under the mango tree in Marikina became a daily scene until their departure for Corregidor.



*The Council of State meeting under the mango tree.*





*Top left: Four days before Christmas, President Quezon communicates to the people via a radio broadcast from the air raid shelter in Marikina. Behind are Secretary Vargas and PLDT President Joe Stevenot. Son Nonong can be seen at the background.*



*Top right: Gen. Douglas Mac Arthur arrives in Marikina to greet President Quezon on his wedding anniversary.*



*Right: His weary face reflecting the turmoil the country was in, President Quezon prepares the government for an emergency situation. With the President are, from left, Secretary Vargas, Gen. Valdez, Justice Secretary Jose Laurel and Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos.*

*Mrs. Quezon, Mrs. Mac Arthur, President Quezon, young Mac Arthur and Baby Quezon in front of a tunnel in Corregidor.*

Meanwhile, Gen. Homma's forces were closing in on Manila from north to south. On December 12, 1941, Quezon was informed by Gen. Mac Arthur of the plan to evacuate to Corregidor. He first refused to evacuate because he felt he should be with his people in their darkest hours. Mac Arthur explained that his personal safety was not a personal matter but of great importance to the government of the Philippines which he was head. As long as he was free, the occupation of Manila or even the entire Philippines by the Japanese government would not have the same significance under international law as when he had been captured.

On December 18, President Quezon took Doña Aurora to see the destructions in the city. This was the last time he was seen by his people.

On the morning of December 24, 1941 Quezon called his last cabinet meeting. His final instruction was, "Do everything in your power to minimize the sufferings of the civilian population."

In the afternoon, he left for Corregidor. With him were members of his family, Vice President Sergio Osmeña, Sr., Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos, Major General Basilio Valdez, Col. Manuel Nieto, Dr. Andreas Trepp (a Swiss lung specialist), Dr. Benvenuto Diño, Col. Egmidio Cruz, Rev. Fr. Pacifico Ortiz and Serapio Canceran.

U.S. High Commissioner Francis B. Sayre, Gen. Mac Arthur and members of their family and staff were also in Corregidor.

President Quezon and his family stayed in Malinta Tunnel. The mental and emotional anguish, the dust and the dampness of the tunnel all conspired in ravaging his health. His tuberculosis had recurred and he was constantly seized with fits of heavy coughing. (He was once confined of TB in a sanitarium in Monrovia, California.)



### Off to Australia and the U.S.

Amidst the crashing echoes of war, Pres Quezon took his oath of office for the second term before Chief Justice Abad Santos in solemn inaugural ceremonies in Corregidor.

The worsening situation necessitated their transfer to the unoccupied territory of the Philippines. On Feb. 20, 1942, they left Corregidor for the Visayas in two groups: President Quezon and his family, Vice President Osmeña, Sr., Chief Justice Abad Santos, Gen. Valdez, Father Ortiz and Col. Nieto went aboard the submarine *Swordfish*. Lt. Col Jaime Velasquez, Andres Soriano, Dr. Trepp, Dr. Diño, Col. Cruz, Sera-pio Canceran went aboard the inter-island steamer, *Don Esteban*. They rendezvoused in Antique and proceeded to Iloilo, Negros and later to Mindanao. Abad Santos decided to stay behind in the Visayas where he was later executed by the Japanese for his refusal to take his oath of allegiance to the Japanese government. From Mindanao, they enplaned to Australia, where they boarded the luxury liner *President Coolidge* for San Francisco where they took a special train to Washington.

Upon their arrival in Washington in May 1942, Pres. Quezon immediately put the Philippine Commonwealth government-in-exile to function. He addressed both Houses of the U.S. Congress urging the liberation of the Philippines. He was constantly in conference with President Roosevelt. He participated actively in the meetings of the Pacific War Council and was one of the signatories of the Atlantic Charter.

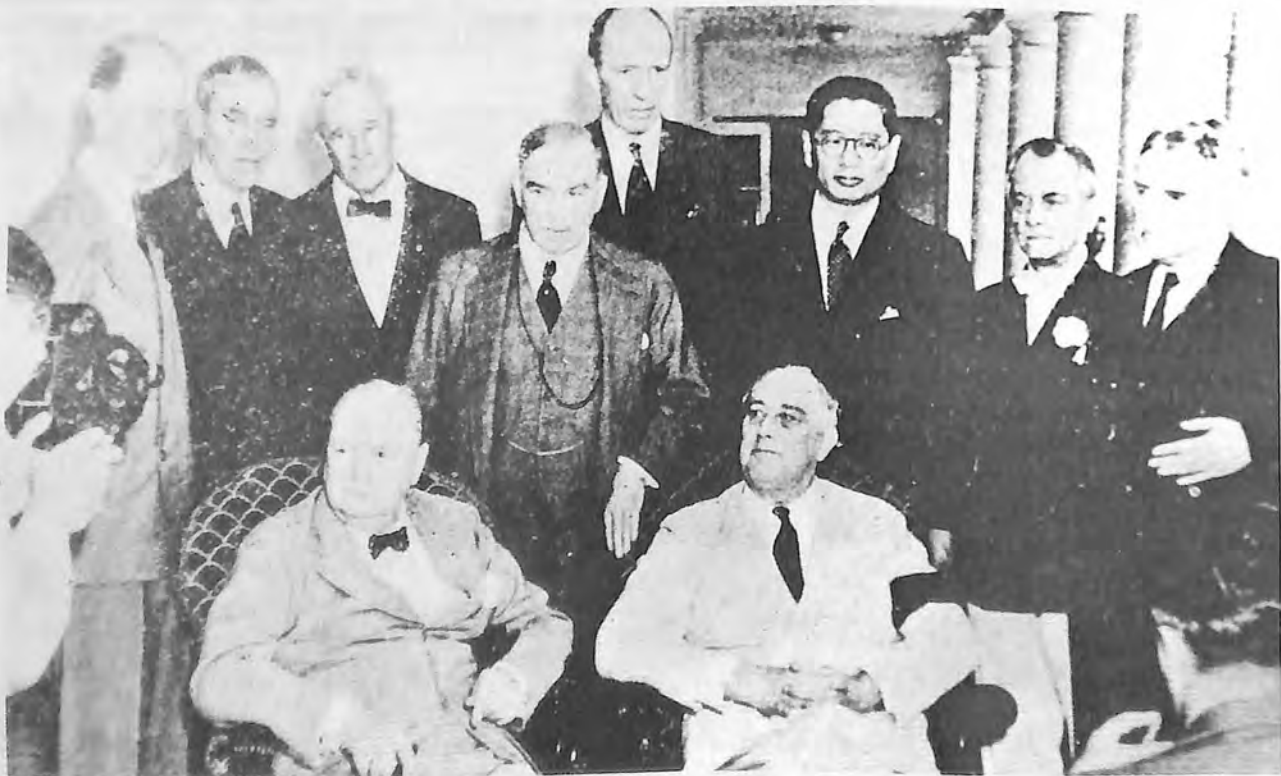


*President Quezon and his family being met by President Roosevelt upon their arrival in Washington.*

**H**e attended to all these despite his worsening health condition. Pres. Quezon's term was supposed to have expired Dec. 30, 1943. The U.S. Congress, however, passed a joint resolution providing for the extension of the term of office of the President and Vice President of the Philippines until the restoration of the Commonwealth government in the Islands.

But there comes a time in the life of every man when the desire to live in order to accomplish a noble task is not enough to hold the mortal body together. The President's lung ailment took a turn for the worse. He was moved to a sanitarium in Saranac Lake, New York. In bed, chilling and coughing, he was perpetually worried about the Filipino people — the gaunt men and women who were counting on the promised libera-

*The Pacific War Council. Great Britain's Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill and U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt are seated in front. President Manuel L. Quezon is second from right.*





tion. He wrote to Gen. Mac Arthur expressing his earnest desire to join the liberation forces even if he was to be carried in a hammock. Gen. Mac Arthur replied with a pledge, "I will bring you in triumph to Manila at the point of my sword."

Gen. Mac Arthur never got to fulfill his pledge. In the morning of August 1, 1944, eighteen days before his sixty-sixth birthday, Manuel L. Quezon, paladin of Philippine Independence, passed away.

"Of all men of all time", Gen Mac Arthur eulogized. "None more truly merited the appellation of Patriot—Statesman. Few could, as he, replace the uniform of the soldier with mantle of statescraft, yet maintain with a voice and pen in undiminished vigor the crusading fight in the self-same cause for which he had fought by the violence of arms." (ETT)

*President Quezon handing Col. Egidio Cruz his decoration for accomplishing a secret mission during the war as Dr. Benvenuto Diño looks on. One of the last pictures taken of the sick President at Saranac Lake.*





*After two years in Arlington Cemetery beside the 'immortals' of the United States of America, President Quezon's remains were brought home and interred at the North Cemetery on August 1, 1946. Photo shows the caisson bearing his remains approaching the gravesite.*

## MANUEL L. QUEZON AT CLOSE RANGE

"It was only when I saw him lying lifeless (moments after he expired) did I realize how truly great the man was," recalls Serapio D. Canceran, private secretary to President Quezon for seven years. "As they say, you never realize the true value of a thing until you lose it."

From March 1937 until the last day of President Quezon's life, Mr. Canceran was with him, always available when needed. "He observed no regular hours," Mr. Canceran relates. Regardless whether it was high noon or midnight, if he remembered something important, he would ask Adong, his valet to call me. 'Canceran, Canceran,' Adong would wake me up in the middle of the night. 'You are called.' In my drowsiness, I would ask, 'By whom?' and Adong would reply, 'Who else?' Who else indeed but the impulsive and unpredictable Manuel L. Quezon.

One had to be always on his toes when working with the indefatigable President. Even now, Mr. Canceran's face light up in affection and admiration when reminiscing his days with the great patriot. It was not seldom, though, that he found himself on the uncomfortable end of the President's famous emotional outbursts. Like the time Don Alejandro Roces, owner of the TVT newspaper chain, excitedly mentioned

to the President he was sending to Manila (they were in Davao) a copy of Canceran's notes on his just-concluded speech. Without ascertaining if Canceran had indeed committed his notes to Don Alejandro, President Quezon berated him in public. Canceran felt so bad he thought of resigning. In the evening, President Quezon spotted Canceran moping at the deck of the Presidential yacht, *Casiana*. "Canceran," he called. "Have you had your supper yet?" When he answered in the negative, the President put his arm around him and said, "Come on, let's eat. "How can you harbor ill-feelings toward such a man!

Manuel L. Quezon was a colorful personality with an unerring sense of drama. He possessed that magnetic combination of charisma and machismo, which attracted a multitude of outstretched hands and adoring faces wherever he went. He trusted his people and mingled with them sans overbearing security men.

His prescience was remarkable. He once remarked, "I have a haunting feeling that I shall not live to see the Philippine Independence." True enough. He died two years before his dream of Philippine Independence became a reality.

*President Quezon with his family and some members of his staff in Washington. Standing from left: Serapio D. Canceran, Col. Jaime Velasquez, Gen. Basilio Valdez, Col. Egmidio Cruz, and Fr. Pacifico Ortiz.*



## Reminiscences

**I**t has been a rare privilege for me to have known, worked with and served under all our Presidents, from Quezon to Marcos: Quezon and Osmeña during the Commonwealth regime; Laurel during the short lived Japanese sponsored Republic of the Philippines and Roxas, Quirino, Magsaysay, Garcia, Macapagal and Marcos since the establishment of the Republic of the Philippines, historically the third republic.

Deeds are more eloquent than words. Judge a man by his acts and not by his words. A man's character may be gleaned from the way he conducts himself. The life of any man, and especially that of great men, is full of incidents which illustrate his true nature, his character. I personally know of many incidents which vividly portray the character of President Quezon.

A few months before the general elections of 1928, Senate President Quezon and Speaker Roxas, with some cabinet members and other high officials, visited Cagayan, possibly to assess the political situation and endorse the candidates of the Nacionalista party. I was then the Provincial Governor of Cagayan. Although I belonged to the Democrata Party, the opposition, I invited the provincial and municipal officials, prominent persons and political leaders of the province to come to Tuguegarao to meet the Quezon-Roxas party. President Quezon and Speaker Roxas had occasion to confer with the local officials and with the political leaders of the Nacionalista Party. I do not know what transpired in their private conference with the local Nacionalista leaders.

*(Continued on page 38)*

## MANUEL L. QUEZON AND I

by

*Ambassador Proceso E. Sebastian*



Ambassador Proceso Sebastian has the rare distinction of having served in all the branches — executive, legislative, and judiciary — of the government. He was a member of the first Parliamentary Mission and 2nd Independence Mission to USA. His ambassadorial stints have brought him to China (Nanking), Rome, Brussels, Holland and Indonesia. Now 86, he spends most of his time writing his memoirs.



### QUEZON AS I KNEW HIM

by  
Ambassador Jose S. Laurel III



Ambassador Laurel belongs to the politically famous Laurels of Batangas. He obtained his B.S. degree from The Imperial Military Academy of Japan, LL.B from MLQU, and LL.M from UP. He had served as ambassador to Japan and chairman of the Philippine Panel, Philippines-Japan Joint Commission. He is presently the president of The Philippines-Japan Society and Philippine Ambassadors Association.

My knowledge of President Manuel L. Quezon was derived mainly from the brief stint I served, when I was still a young man, as his junior military aide. That was during the period from 1938 to 1941, or, more correctly, during 2 years of this period.

In 1934, while only 20 years of age, I was on my way to Rollins College in Florida, U.S.A., on a scholarship grant. When my ship stopped over in Hongkong, I was surprised to receive a cryptic telegram from my father instructing me to proceed directly to Japan and enroll instead at the Imperial Military Academy. I did so without question, as was expected then of a good son, but also not without wonder. Later I was to find out that it was Quezon who had suggested the sudden change of plans.

Quezon explained to my father that there were enough Filipino students going then to the United States and that in any case we knew enough about that country. By contrast, our knowledge of Japan was virtually nil. Quezon felt that Japan was the emerging power in Asia and that, therefore, we should know more about that country. My father agreed.

Being the first Filipino to be admitted by what was then the West Point of Japan, I must admit I had a difficult time specially during the initial years. But, as they say, hard work and perseverance finally willed out and in 1938 I was able to complete my course of study including the required tour of duty at the Imperial Guards Division. In the same year I was commissioned by the Commonwealth Government probationary 3rd lieutenant in the Philippine Army. And it was in this capacity that I was soon enough pulled out from my assignment with GHQ and

## Reminiscences

Ambassador Sebastian . . . . .

During the public meeting at the town plaza of Tuguegarao, after informing our distinguished visitors of the needs of the province and our request for help as stated by the previous local speakers, President Quezon got up and among other things said:

"I am a great admirer of Governor Sebastian. He went with me to the U.S. as a member of the First Parliamentary Mission. I must confess that I have learned to like him and admire him. As you probably have read in the papers, when Governor Wood gave a luncheon at Malacañang in honor of the provincial governors, I asked Governor Sebastian to speak for the Governors."

"Governor Sebastian is not only a very competent and very able man, but" he continued, "he has a very BIG DEFECT."

President Quezon paused to observe the effect of his words. The public was astounded. An ominous silence followed. President Quezon with his incomparable political astuteness, then released a bombshell saying:

"Governor Sebastian has a big defect, because he is a DEMOCRATA. He should be a Nacionalista. If he were a Nacionalista, he would get more funds for you and more improvements would come to your province. I have tried to convince him to join our party but he invariably answered that having been elected as a Democrata he should remain a Democrata. Let us admire him for his manly stand and for his loyalty to his party. Very few people have this courage. However, I wish to tell you that although

he is a Democrata, if I were a voter of Cagayan, I would gladly vote for Governor Sebastian."

Such a frank statement, coming from no other than President Quezon, who was also the President of the Nacionalista Party, was received with loud and deafening cheers by the crowd, who responded with the words: "We will certainly vote for Sebastian again."

The above incident, small and insignificant as it may seem to a man of Quezon's stature, clinched my reelection as provincial governor to the chagrin of my vulnerable opponent, former Governor Honorio Lasam of Tuguegarao. At the popular reception which I gave at my residence after the meeting, some Nacionalista leaders told the President that former Governor Lasam was disgusted, to which President Quezon retorted, "I have already sounded and talked to all leaders, who openly admitted that the people of Cagayan would like to see Governor Sebastian reelected, because he has done very well. We should not thwart the people's will."

Another incident which illustrates the character of President Quezon was the case of Manuel Blanco, who was the Provincial Fiscal when I was the executive Judge of the Court of First Instance of Iloilo.

One day, Asst. Fiscal Ignacio Debuque came to my office to show me a telegram from Malacañang instructing Fiscal Blanco to report on a certain case. Fiscal Blanco was then on vacation. So I told Assistant Fiscal Debuque to conduct the desired investigation and submit his report to

*(Continued on page 40)*

### Ambassador Laurel . . . . .

detailed as the junior aide-de-camp to President Quezon, on his direct order.

President Quezon was in 1938 already 60 years old, whereas I was only 23, less than half his age. Moreover, this was the President of the Philippines, my commander-in-chief, the domineering, temperamental, bushy-browed Quezon with whom even American governor-generals picked their words and trod ever so softly. You can, therefore, imagine the trepidation with which I approached my extraordinary assignment.

Yet, by and large, I was to find it a memorable and rewarding experience. My tour of duty as aide to President Quezon is in fact one of my most treasured memories that I take much pride and joy in recollecting. My reason is that it gave me the rare opportunity of knowing one of the greatest figures of our race, to assess him at close range as an ordinary human being, with all his strengths and weaknesses and divested of the trappings of authority.

My most enduring remembrance of Quezon is about his thoughtfulness. As I look back now, it seems that he was forever asking me how I was every time I reported for duty. I do not know if that was a reflection on my physique at the time — I weighed only 120 pounds then — but in any case I was always deeply grateful for his constant concern for my well-being.

One would think that a man who had spent practically all his life in the rough-and-tumble of politics, and unavoidably made not a few enemies,

would develop a kind of ruthlessness, if only in self-defense. Yet, despite his exterior image, Quezon was surprisingly soft-hearted. One could easily glean this from his tenderness toward his wife, the self-effacing Doña Aurora, and their three children. Not equally perceptible was his kindness toward others, including those with whom he did not see eye to eye.

Quezon as I remember him had a deep sense of gratitude. During my daily association with him for all of two years, I was more often than not privy to his remarks and his conversations. Yet I do not remember ever hearing him say anything unkind against any one to whom he owed some favor, whether great or small. Of these persons, he always spoke with warm affection.

For all his well-publicized outbursts of temper, Quezon also had a contagious sense of humor. This was perhaps his best redeeming virtue — the counterfoil to his countless and terrifying “Puñeta!” that often reverberated in Malacañang. Many were the times when I caught him in a good mood, and he would recount to me a few of his youthful escapades, usually romantic. I would listen fascinated, with eyes wide with wonder and, yes, envy.

For all his dynamic and energetic leadership, Quezon was in bad health. Apart from the lung ailment that was finally to claim his life, he had chronic coughs from which he suffered innumerable and punishing attacks. During these attacks, I would carry him bodily to his bedroom, usually from the ground floor up a long and seemingly endless staircase. This was to me my

## Reminiscences

### Ambassador Sebastian . . . .

Malacañang. I do not know what happened afterwards but the next thing I knew President Quezon had ordered the dismissal of Fiscal Blanco.

A few weeks after this incident, I found myself in Malacañang, and there met Fiscal Blanco, who was trying to see the President. When the President saw Blanco he flew into a rage. After the explosive outburst, quite natural for an impulsive and a temperamental man like President Quezon, I quietly told the President that Fiscal Blanco was at that time on vacation and that it was Fiscal Debuque, who later became Judge of the Court of First Instance, who was then Acting Fiscal. The President turned to me and asked me why I had not informed him earlier of this. I explained that I had never been asked about the matter, and I never had a chance to visit Manila since this incident occurred.

From his fit of anger, he arrived at a calm decision and the President announced that he will study the case further. A few days later, Fiscal Blanco was not only reinstated as Provincial Fiscal but was promoted by the President Judge-at-Large of the Court of First Instance. Judge Blanco died a few years ago. Before he died, he blessed the memory of President Quezon.

### Ambassador Laurel . . . . .

heaviest duty, literally, for he had an inert weight of about 160 pounds. Yet I remember it now with pleasure. In lighter moments, Quezon would tease me about my build and even ask me to feel his own biceps. He was proud of his muscles.

His real strength was, of course, not in his muscles but in his character, in his indomitable aspiration for the freedom of his people, in his driving desire to fight for it. In fighting this good fight, he was in his own element, so to speak, and no adversary was too strong, no opponent too formidable. Even the Americans respected him. Quezon was no brown lackey of Washington. I saw Quezon talk with a number of them, including the imperious General MacArthur, and he did so on equal terms, without fawning or submissiveness or obsequiousness but always with ease and dignity, as befitted the leader of his nation. Those moments never failed to fill me with deep pride.

It is now forty years since that day when I first nervously reported to President Manuel L. Quezon as his junior military aide. I have known since then many other leaders of our country, some of whom I also had the chance to observe at close range and to appraise for their all too-human qualities. I can say categorically that, in comparison, Quezon stands head and shoulders above all of them. He is the one I remember best because I think he was the best.



## **QUEZON and the CAMPAIGN for PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE**

by  
*Nicolas Zafra*  
*Professor Emeritus of History*  
*University of the Philippines*

**A**ugust 19, this year, is the late Manuel L. Quezon's 100th birth anniversary. By this time, too, he has been dead 34 years.

Death is oblivion to ordinary mortals, but to Quezon it is a security of place in Philippine history. Future generations are not likely to forget him or any of the landmarks of his political career many of which are now important events of our contemporary history. Now is the time to indulge in fond recollection of the great events of Quezon's life. Admittedly, the outstanding episode of his life was his role in the campaign for Philippine independence — the "sacred cause" of the Filipino people.

The grand strategy for the campaign for independence was worked out by Sergio Osmeña during his incumbency as Speaker of the First Philippine Assembly. It called for two distinct courses of action: (1) for members of the Assembly to demonstrate their capacity for statesmanship through the high quality of their legislative labors, producing legislation evincing concern for the welfare of their people. This part of the strategy was meant to erase the impression then held by a considerable portion of the American people that the Filipinos lacked the capacity for self government. The other part of the strategy was aimed at winning and preserving the friendship, goodwill and sympathy of the American people toward the Philippines and the Filipino people and their aspirations for independence.

**Q**uezon's role in the campaign for independence passed through two stages: (1) 1908-1923; and (2) 1923-1935. In the first stage, Quezon carried out his assignment in the campaign

under the supreme command of Speaker Osmeña. In the second stage, as a result of the 1923 power struggle in the country, Quezon displaced Osmeña as leader in the campaign.

The first important move in the independence campaign was the election by the Philippine Assembly of Quezon as Resident Commissioner in the United States. At the time of his election, Quezon was floor leader in the Assembly. In his actuations as a member of that body, he displayed a brilliant mind, a charming personality and a spirit of dedication to the cause of Philippine Independence.

In May, 1910, Quezon delivered his maiden speech in the U.S. Congress. It was his initial move in the campaign for independence. In accordance with the campaign strategy laid down by Speaker Osmeña, Quezon conveyed the appreciation and gratitude of the Filipino people for all the benefits that they received from the United States. "My countrymen," he said, "are grateful, deeply grateful for all the benefits the U.S. Government has conferred upon them." But he reminded Congress of the Filipino people's aspiration for independence. "But despite all," he said with all the force of his eloquence, "we still want independence . . . Ask the bird, Sir, who is enclosed in a golden cage and the care of his owner if he would prefer his cage and the care of his owner to the freedom of the skies and the allure of the forest."

In 1912, the Democratic Party gained full control of the Government of the U.S. Resident Commissioner Quezon took advantage of this turn of events to secure a change in the governorship of the Philippines. W. Cameron Forbes was then Governor-General of the Philippines. He had an excellent record during his in-

cumbency as a member of the Philippine Commission. He improved the means of travel and transportation in the country by building a network of good roads and bridges. Kennon Road which made Baguio with its healthful climate easily accessible from the lowlands is a monument to his administration. Moreover, he had close and friendly relations with the country's political leaders and prominent elements of Filipino society. But Resident Commissioner Quezon felt that it was his duty to secure a new man for the governorship of the Philippines whose attitude towards the Filipino people's independence aspirations was unequivocally favorable and sympathetic. How he went about in pursuance of this purpose is told by Quezon himself in his autobiography as follows:

"President Wilson one day summoned me to the White House and asked my opinion as to whether a new Governor General should be appointed or whether Governor General Forbes should be left in his post. To a Filipino, with Oriental ancestry, a little Spanish blood and mostly Spanish education — which practically all that I then had, — the question was very trying indeed. Friendship to me has a real meaning and personal favors are never forgotten. On the other hand, I had come to Washington to perform a sacred duty. I measured my words and gave President Wilson the following answer: "Mr. President, if it is your intention to disregard the Democratic platform and merely carry on the policies of the Republican Administration, then you can find no better man for the job than Governor General Forbes. If, on the contrary, you intend to take immediate

steps, as in my opinion you should take, to make good the new historic commitment of your party to grant independence to the Philippines as soon as possible, then Governor Forbes can neither be the spokesman for nor the executor of your policies in the Philippines."

As can well be seen from the above quoted passage, Quezon's approach to the problem before him was admirable. It was a model of finesse which undoubtedly made a deep impression on President Wilson. In effect, President Wilson appointed Francis Burton Harrison as Governor General of the Philippines. He was a friend of Quezon. With his appointment Quezon had for sure something to do.

The administration of Harrison was a landmark in the history of America's colonial venture in the Far East. It was friendly, helpful and sympathetic toward the Filipinos and their political aspirations. He allowed the Filipinos through their political leaders to introduce changes and practices in the colonial government which expanded to the fullest extent possible Filipino participation in the administration of national affairs. Foremost among such changes was the creation upon the recommendation of the Filipino leaders of the Council of State. This body was composed of the Governor General, members of the cabinet, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the floor leaders respectively of the House of Representative and the Senate. Membership in the Council of State was renewable at the beginning of a three-year period. New members were chosen from the party which won in the last national election.

The Council of State was supposedly to act as an advisory body to the Governor General. Actually, it was the supreme governing body of the Philippines.

Creation of the Council of State brought to the Philippine government a distinctive feature of the parliamentary system of government, namely, the union of the executive and legislative branches of government. Under the new arrangement, members of the cabinet could appear on the floor of the Legislature to explain or defend proposed measures relating to their respective offices, a practice common in a parliamentary system of government based on the principle of ministerial responsibility.

The Council of State gave the Filipinos an opportunity to experiment with a semi-parliamentary system of government. But Governor-General Wood did not look with favor upon the experiment. He believed it placed him as the representative of American sovereignty in a position of responsibility without the corresponding authority. Under the circumstances, a clash was inevitable between him and the Filipino leaders in the Council of State. In effect, a controversy over a case involving an American member of the police force of the City of Manila, which was under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, brought Governor Wood in a head-on collision with the Filipino leaders in the Council of State. As a result, the Filipino members of the Council of State resigned from that body. Governor Wood accepted their resignations. Subsequently, Governor Wood allowed the Council of State to go out of existence.

The administration of Wood was a dark day indeed for the cause of Philippine independence. Apart from the fact that Governor Wood was openly opposed to the Filipino people's independence aspirations, the permanent source of funds for the expenses of the campaign for independence was cut down during his administration. The Philippine Independence Fund which the Philippine Legislature had created was, by a ruling of the Insular Auditor, Ben Wright, and, presumably on Wood's order, declared illegal. The Filipino people, thenceforth, had to provide through individual contributions funds for the campaign.

The death of Governor Wood (1926) gave the Filipinos an auspicious occasion to renew their efforts in the campaign for independence. The first important task awaiting them was to obtain the appointment of a suitable successor to Governor Wood. To attend to this matter, Quezon and Osmeña constituted themselves into a commission to go to the United States. Quezon's choice for the governorship of the Philippines was Henry L. Stimson, former Secretary of War during the presidency of William H. Taft. In their conference with President Coolidge, the Filipino Commissioners recommended Henry L. Stimson for the governorship of the Philippines. They visited William H. Taft, the first civil governor of the Philippines who was at the time Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, to ask his support for Stimson's appointment. They of course saw Stimson. Stimson at first would not at all consider the offer presented to him. But Quezon would not take "no" for an answer. Bringing to bear all his power of persuasion, he reminded Stimson of his own words that the government of the Philippines was a grave res-

ponsibility resting on the United States. Although Stimson did not give a word of acceptance, Quezon and Osmeña left the conference with Stimson fully confident that Stimson would not refuse the offer if it was officially presented to him. In effect, a few days later, they read in the newspapers that Henry L. Stimson had been appointed Governor General of the Philippines.

The case of Stimson is an interesting incident in the life of Quezon. It reveals a notable facet of his character. Quezon was fully aware of Stimson's opposition to Philippine independence and yet, surprisingly, he wanted him so much for the governorship of the Philippines. Quezon came to know Stimson intimately when the latter visited the Philippines at the height of the controversy between Wood and the Filipino leaders in the government. With his keen perception of human character, Quezon saw the depth and sincerity of Stimson's concern for the safety and welfare of the Filipino people. Of Stimson, he said in his autobiography: "no representative of the U.S. in the Philippines had won my respect and even my personal affection than did Governor General Stimson."

As Governor General of the Philippines, Stimson won the friendship, good will and cooperation of the Filipino people. He revived the Council of State thereby reestablishing the semiparliamentary character of the Philippine government. Stimson's administration generated such a spirit of cooperation among his colleagues in the government that his name became synonymous with "cooperation."

But, to the great disappointment of



many Filipinos, Governor Stimson did not stay long in his post. Soon after the inauguration of Hoover as President of the United States, Stimson was called back to Washington. He was made Secretary of State in the cabinet of President Hoover. At that time, ominous developments were taking place in Eastern Asia which caused no little concern to the Government of the United States. As Secretary of State, it was Stimson's responsibility to take adequate measures to safeguard America's interests in the Far East. Accordingly, he launched what has come to be known in American diplomatic history as the "Stimson Doctrine." The "Doctrine" gave notice to the world that the U.S. would not admit as legal any situation brought about by the violation of treaty agreements.

**D**uring the administration of President Hoover, a severe economic depression hit the U.S. Many sectors of the nation's economy felt its disastrous effects. Factories closed down, banks suspended their operations, millions of families suffered the loss of life's savings. The U.S. Government was asked urgently to provide remedial measures. Strangely enough, one suggested measure of relief was to grant independence to the Philippines. The reason behind the proposal was that American industry would be relieved from the competition of duty-free products of the Philippines in the U.S. domestic trade.

Obviously, the situation in the United States was greatly favorable to the cause of independence. The Filipino leaders were not slow in taking advantage of the situation. A new mission was created composed of Senator Osmeña as chairman

and Speaker Roxas as co-chairman. The OSROX as the Mission came to be known was instructed to obtain independence for the Philippines under the most favorable conditions.

In Congress many proposals were submitted for the solution of the Philippine problem. Out of these, one was finally framed which counted with the support of the majority of the members in both Houses of Congress. Known as the Hare-Hawes-Cutting-Bill, the measure was approved by substantial majorities in both Houses of Congress. But Congress ignored the presidential veto and quickly repassed the Bill. As enacted by Congress, the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act bore the title PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH AND INDEPENDENCE LAW.

The Act provided for an institutional process in which successive steps were to be taken, namely: (1) the calling of a constitutional convention to frame a constitution for the Philippines (2) submission of the constitution to the people; (3) regulating trade relations between the U.S. and the Philippines; (4) withdrawal of American sovereignty following the expiration of a ten-year period; (5) imposition of duties after independence; and (6) acceptance of the Act by the Philippine Legislature.

The approval of the Independence Law was viewed as a glorious culmination of the Filipino people's historic struggle for liberation. Surprisingly, however, Quezon was not happy over it. He found certain provisions of the Law objectionable. One was that giving the U.S. the right to retain military and naval bases in the country. Another was that relating to commercial relations of the Philippines with the United States. The retention of

military and naval bases, Quezon pointed out, would give the Philippines the shadow not the substance of independence. As regards the commercial provisions, Filipino opposition was justified on historical grounds. When the U.S. imposed free trade upon the Philippines with the Payne-Aldrich Act, the Philippine Assembly opposed the move. It feared that free trade would eventually bind the Philippines to the U.S. with strong economic ties which would make it difficult for it to realize its independence ideal. For the U.S. now to grant independence to the Philippines without giving it reasonable time to adjust its economy to the conditions and realities of independence would be unjust to the Filipino people.

The Independence Act gave ties to a nationwide controversy in the Philippines. One group, the *Pros*, led by Osmeña and Roxas, called for acceptance of the Law. The *Antis*, led by Quezon advocated rejection. In the Senate, Quezon clashed in a memorable debate. In speeches bristling with wit and punctuated with brilliant flashes of eloquences, they defended their respective positions on the Independence Law. In the House of Representatives, Roxas eloquently explained the merits of the Independence Law. When submitted to a vote in the Legislature, the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act was decisively rejected. The Legislature next resolved to send Quezon to the U.S. to ask for a modification of the Law or for the enactment of the new one more acceptable to the Philippines.

Many people at the time even among those who supported Quezon in the fight over the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act thought that the rejection of the Independence Law was a risky venture which exposed the cause of Philippine independence to

the danger of indefinite postponement to an uncertain future if not of total loss. Quezon himself must have been aware of this danger. When he left for the U.S. in pursuance of his mission, it was certain that he knew he was carrying the burden of a great responsibility.

In Congress, the leaders who worked so hard for the passage of the Independence Law were no longer enthusiastic over the Philippine problem. They were, understandably, irked by Quezon's seeming vacillation on the issue on independence for his country. Their attitude toward Quezon was cold if not openly hostile. In a confrontation between them and Quezon, Senator Joseph Robinson told Quezon, referring to the Independence Law, to "take it or leave it."

Quezon was not at all daunted by the hostile attitude of the Congress leaders. He bided his time. He wrote a memorandum for President Roosevelt on the objectionable features of the Independence Law. Next, he arranged with the White House for an appointment for him to see President Roosevelt.

In the White House conference, President Roosevelt told Quezon he agreed with Quezon's criticisms of the Independence Law. But he assured Quezon that the U.S. was willing to revise the law in a manner that would be just to both the American and the Filipino peoples. The President's assurance naturally pleased Quezon. It gave him good reason to claim that his mission was after all a success. In effect, shortly after the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, a Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs was created to study economic problems of Philippine independence and propose

### III. THE TYDINGS-McDUFFIE INDEPENDENCE ACT

[PUBLIC—No. 127—73D CONGRESS]

[H. R. 8573]

#### AN ACT

*To provide for the complete independence of the Philippine Islands, to provide for the adoption of a constitution and a form of government for the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### CONVENTION TO FRAME CONSTITUTION FOR PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

SECTION 1. The Philippine Legislature is hereby authorized to provide for the election of delegates to a constitutional convention, which shall meet in the hall of the house of representatives in the capital of the Philippine Islands, at such time as the Philippine Legislature may fix, but not later than October 1, 1934, to formulate and draft a constitution for the government of the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands, subject to the conditions and qualifications prescribed in this Act, which shall exercise jurisdiction over all the territory ceded to the United States by the treaty of peace concluded between the United States and Spain on the 10th day of December 1898, the boundaries of which are set forth in article III of said treaty, together with those islands embraced in the treaty between Spain and the United States concluded at Washington on the 7th day of November 1900. The Philippine Legislature shall provide for the necessary expenses of such convention.

legislative changes. The Filipino membership in the Committee was headed by Jose Yulo, a well-known commercial law expert.

In pursuance of the Roosevelt-Quezon understanding, a new independence bill was drafted. Known as Tydings-McDuffie it passed both Houses of Congress and signed into law by President Roosevelt. On May 1, 1934, the Philippine Legislature formally accepted it. The institutional process was thereby set in motion that would lead eventually to independence for the Philippines in 1946. On November 15, 1935, the Commonwealth of the Philippines was set up with Quezon

and Osmeña as President and Vice-President respectively. Both were re-elected to their respective posts in 1940.

In 1943, the eight-year tenure of Quezon as fixed by the Constitution as amended was due to expire. Before the expiration date arrived, Quezon gave notice of his desire to continue as President alleging that, in the emergency through which the Philippines was passing on account of the Japanese occupation of the country, the interests of the Filipino people required that the status quo as regards the presidency should be continued. Announcement of Quezon's intent



gave rise to a serious crisis in the Philippine Government in exile. Osmeña, however, volunteered to refrain from claiming his right of succession to the presidency for the sake of national unity and out of regard for Quezon's physical condition. It was a magnificent gesture of abnegation on the part of Osmeña. It aborted the crisis. Together with Senator Tydings, Osmeña worked out a plan of action for the U.S. Congress whereby the status quo as regards the presidency of the Philippines was legally continued.

**B**y that time, Quezon's health had greatly deteriorated. The ravages of tuberculosis had wrought havoc on his constitution. He was bed-ridden. He was dangerously close to the brink of death. Death finally came to him on August 1, 1944. It was a clear sunny day in mid-summer that dawned that day. Father Pacifico Ortiz, S.J., Quezon's chaplain, celebrated as usual mass for Quezon. The Gospel read at the mass was from the eighth chapter of Matthew. The passage happened to be one of Quezon's favorite readings from the Holy Scriptures. It tells the story of the centurion whose servant was seriously ill. He begged Jesus to come and heal him. Jesus said that he would come. Overwhelmed by Jesus' kindness, the centurion replied: "Sir, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. Just say the word and my boy will be healed."

Shortly after the mass, news came over the radio of MacArthur's forces having made another landing which brought them more closely to the Philippines. The news greatly excited Quezon. In his excitement internal hemorrhage set in causing him to vomit blood. A few moments later, Quezon was dead. But he

was happy in the thought that the day of liberation of his beloved country was near.

News of Quezon's death came to the Philippines through secretly hidden radio sets. The Filipino people deeply mourned the passing of their great leader. Not a few among them wondered with no little feeling of concern whether the Philippines could have another Quezon in the foreseeable future. However, those who are familiar with the nature of the historical process in the Philippines are not at all concerned about the problem of political leadership in the country in the years to come. Philippine history amply shows that the Filipino race has the potentiality of producing leaders with the intellectual, moral and patriotic grandeur of Manuel L. Quezon.



## **PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES**

**August 18, 1978**

- 3:00 P.M. . . . . . Unveiling of the marker, declaring the  
Quezon Memorial Circle as National  
Historical Landmark under Presidential  
Decree No. 260.
- 3:15 P.M. . . . . . Opening of the Quezon Museum at the  
Quezon Monument.
- 4:00 P.M. . . . . . Unveiling of the historical marker  
installed at the monument in the  
quadrangle of the Quezon City Hall

## COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES

August 19, 1978

### I

6:15 A.M. .... Transfer of President Quezon's  
remains from the North Cemetery  
to the Quezon Monument and  
Mausoleum

### II

7:45 A.M. .... Requiem Mass  
Main Celebrant ..... His Eminence  
Jaime L. Cardinal Sin  
Co-Celebrants ..... Msgr. Francisco Avendaño  
Rev. Fr. Pacifico Ortiz, S.J.  
8:30 A.M. .... Arrival Honors  
8:45 A.M. .... Blessing and Entombment of  
President Quezon's Remains  
9:00 A.M. .... Floral Offering  
a. His Excellency Ferdinand E. Marcos  
and the First Lady Me. Imelda R. Marcos  
b. Mrs. Zeneida Quezon-Avanceña and  
Mr. Manuel L. Quezon, Jr.  
c. Flower Drop: Philippine Air Force

### III

9:15 A.M. .... Civic-Military Parade  
Participating:  
Barangay Brigades  
Integrated National Police Battalion  
Composite Battalion of the Armed  
Forces of the Philippines

### IV

10:00 A.M. .... Commemorative Programme

## PROGRAMME

10:00 A.M.

The National Anthem .....	GHQ Band
Opening Remarks .....	Hon. Adelina S. Rodriguez Mayor, Quezon City
Presentations of Commemorative Stamps, Coins and Medal .....	Hon. Imelda R. Marcos First Lady and Minister of Human Settlements and Ecology
Introduction of Recipients .....	Hon. Anacleto C. Alcala Governor, Quezon Province
Centenary Stamps .....	Gen. Felizardo R. Tanabe Postmaster General, Bureau of Posts Assisting
Mr. Manuel L. Quezon, Jr. The Quezon City Museum (To be received by Mayor Adelina S. Rodriguez)	The National Museum (To be received by Director Godofredo L. Alcasid)
Centenary Coins .....	Hon. Gregorio S. Licaros Governor, Central Bank of the Philippines Assisting
Mrs. Zeneida Quezon-Avanceña The Quezon City Museum (To be received by Mayor Adelina S. Rodriguez)	The National Historical Institute (To be received by Prof. Esteban A. de Ocampo)
	The National Museum (To be received by Director Godofredo L. Alcasid)
Centenary Medal .....	Chairman Esteban A. de Ocampo National Historical Institute Assisting
His Excellency President Ferdinand E. Marcos	
Presentation of Resolution of the Executive Committee to His Excellency President Ferdinand E. Marcos .....	Hon. Jorge B. Vargas Co-Chairman, Executive Committee 1978 Manuel L. Quezon National Centennial Year
Presentation of the Guest Speaker ...	Hon. Emilio M. Abello Co-Chairman, Executive Committee 1978 Manuel L. Quezon National Centennial Year
Address by the Guest of Speaker .....	His Excellency FERDINAND E. MARCOS President and Prime Minister of the Philippines
	Hon. Pio Pedrosa Chairman, Executive Committee 1978 Manuel L. Quezon National Centennial Year Master of Ceremonies

# QUEZON'S PARTYLESS DEMOCRACY —

by

*Carlos P. Romulo*  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs*

**T**he second national struggle for Philippine independence was in large measure the handiwork of the late President Quezon. During that long struggle, he mobilized the entire political, legal and moral resources of the people, forging the unity which firmly established the identity of the Filipino nation.

It should surprise no one that he should leave enduring political and social legacies which even today bear a lasting imprint on the national body politic. Like President Marcos, he was a creative statesman of the highest order. The American colonial regime was America's experiment in exporting its own brand of democracy. President Quezon turned it into a Philippine experiment in a ceaseless effort to discover novel forms which suited the temper and reflected the values of the people whom he guided into maturity.

Realizing that if the "good fight" was to be won he needed a strongly cohesive nation behind him, he developed a government that was in all but name an authoritarian regime in order to give strong central direction to the efforts of Filipinos to win political and economic independence.

As Senate President, he opposed nominal independence which in his view would give his people only the "freedom to starve" and vigorously urged the revision of trade relations between the Philippines and the United States. He opposed the retention of American military bases in the Philippines on the ground that it would make Philippine independence a farce. While willing to consider the continuation of naval stations, he insisted that the Philippine government should have an equal voice in their operations.

Of independence without essence, he would have none. One of his best known aphorisms runs as follows: "I prefer a government run like hell by Filipinos to a government run like heaven by Americans." In actual fact what he did say was the following: "The best government is a government run by Filipinos."

It is a mark of President Quezon's prescience that these issues, to this day, constitute important elements in our efforts to strengthen the basis of the friendly relationships between the Philippines and the United States.

As President of the Philippine Commonwealth, with the struggle for emancipation already half-won, he turned his attention to domestic affairs.



## FORERUNNER OF NEW SOCIETY

Believing that the Philippines must ultimately rely on itself for the protection of its territorial integrity, he established the national defense force as his first act as President.

President Quezon was an eminently pragmatic statesman and never feared to innovate when convinced that it would redound to the benefit of the nation. He abolished the bicameral legislature and established an unicameral body, a kind of forerunner of the *Batasang Pambansa*. He foresaw that the need for national unity would be even more urgent after independence and began developing a political philosophy conducive to this end. He proposed in effect the abolition of political parties and urged a "partyless democracy" in which all segments of the population would be represented in order to give everyone equal voice in the shaping of the new nation.

"The first fetish that we must discard," he declared, "is the discredited theory that democracy cannot exist without political parties." Political parties were "not essential to, but on the contrary (were) evils in, a democracy."

"The second slogan that must be thrown overboard," he went on to say, "is the theory that in a democracy individual liberty must not be restricted . . . The exercise of liberty is good for the people only when it is accompanied by self-restraint. It is the abuse of liberty which is today causing the disappearance of liberty in many parts of the world."

President Quezon's efforts to create new political institutions were complemented by a deepening interest in social and economic affairs. He was the first to recognize that political stability had its true basis in economic development and that a retarded domestic economy would give rise to grave social discontents which would inevitably threaten national stability. In consequence social justice became the watchword of his administration.

It is easy to draw parallels between President Quezon and President Marcos, and in many respects comparisons are inevitable. If true, then we may conclude that the New Society is the inheritor of a tradition and President Quezon, dead of a mortal ailment before his work was completed, had left a lasting legacy to the nation to which he devoted his best energies and, in the end, gave up life itself.

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Excerpt from the speech delivered by the author during the symposium on "Quezon's Social and Political Legacy to the Filipino Nation."

# QUEZON CITY: from an ARDENT DREAM to a GLEAMING REALITY

**I**n tracing the history of any other city, one might begin with its name, its early inhabitants, its port, or the types of early architecture. Here in Quezon City, one has to begin and end with its founder and his dream. It is a 'Quezonian landscape,' just as fascinating in its way as anything that nature has created in the ridges of Tagaytay or Baguio. For the physical, political, economic and socio-cultural components of the city are the manifestations of his dream for the place and its people.

In his address before the members of the National Assembly on September 18, 1939, Quezon expounded on his dream for a "...capital city that, politically shall be the seat of government; aesthetically the showplace of the nation — a place that thousands of people will come and visit as the epitome of culture and spirit of the country; socially, a dignified concentration of human life, aspirations and endeavors and achievements; and economically as a productive, self-contained community." The late President's endorsement of the creation of a capital city was the fruition of the efforts of a group of people who, as early as 1904 according to a historian, has conceived of founding a place for the impending excess population of Manila. The quest culminated with the passage of Commonwealth Act No. 502 by the National Assembly, which was signed by President on October 12, 1939, creating Quezon City.

The type and rate of growth and trend

towards which Quezon City developed its own image and identity have been greatly influenced by plans in the past aimed at providing an appropriate environment for an identified group of people envisioned by the late president. The Frost Plan was prepared to crystallize this vision. But it was shortlived for in 1948, the Capital City Planning Commission was created and the 1949 master plan for the capital city was laid based on the same concept and direction — that which would provide not only residential lots for the small employee but also jobs for the unemployed and where constitutional offices will function in an atmosphere of dignity, freedom and human happiness.

Partially, this plan was implemented. Through the years, the city administration was guided by the zoning ordinance to arm itself in directing, controlling and regulating development. In 1976, urban planning was given the needed boost with the completion of the Quezon City Comprehensive Development Program, wherein the conceptual land use plan was incorporated. One of the goals of the general plan is to direct the physical development of the city and its environs in relation to its social and economic well being for the fulfillment of the rightful common destiny, and to serve as the basic frame of reference for all administrative and regulatory measures relating to the physical development of the city — the zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations, urban renewal, and the capital improvement expenditures, among others.

*"I dream of a capital city that, politically shall be the seat of government, aesthetically the showplace of the nation — a place that thousands of people will come and visit as the epitome of future and spirit of the country; socially a dignified concentration of human life, aspirations, endeavors and achievements; and economically as a productive, self-contained community."*

*Cubao 42 years ago.*

*President Quezon looking for a suitable site for his dream city.*



Today, 39 years after its founding, Quezon City can boast of several achievements which partially fulfill the dream of Quezon for the city. On the institutional front, the most notable accomplishment is the construction of the permanent seat of government at Constitution Hills — the Batasang Pambansa Complex — which was inaugurated on June 12, 1978 by His Excellency, Prime Minister Ferdinand E. Marcos and Hon. Imelda Romualdez Marcos, First Lady, Minister of Ecology and Human Settlements and Governor of the Metropolitan Manila Commission. Eighty-seven other national government ministries, commissions, bureaus and offices are based in the city, either housed in government buildings or renting in privately-owned edifices. The city is also proud of having social facilities for meeting the needs of its resident for health and medical care, housing, education, culture and protective services. It has a total of 27 hospitals, 14 clinics, 37 health centers, 143 public and private elementary and secondary schools, 10 public libraries, 37 parks and playgrounds, a stadium, a coliseum, six police precincts and several police outposts, and nine fire stations.

The city is also the sanctuary of more than 1.4 M residents, distributed among the eight government housing projects, some 429 private subdivisions, and individual properties. Although it has its share in the national government's perennial problem of squatting and urban blight in certain areas, the matter is properly being attended to in the city's Zonal Improvement Program.

A major central business district has also been realized in Cubao area, mainly through the initiative of the private sector. Commercial strip development has

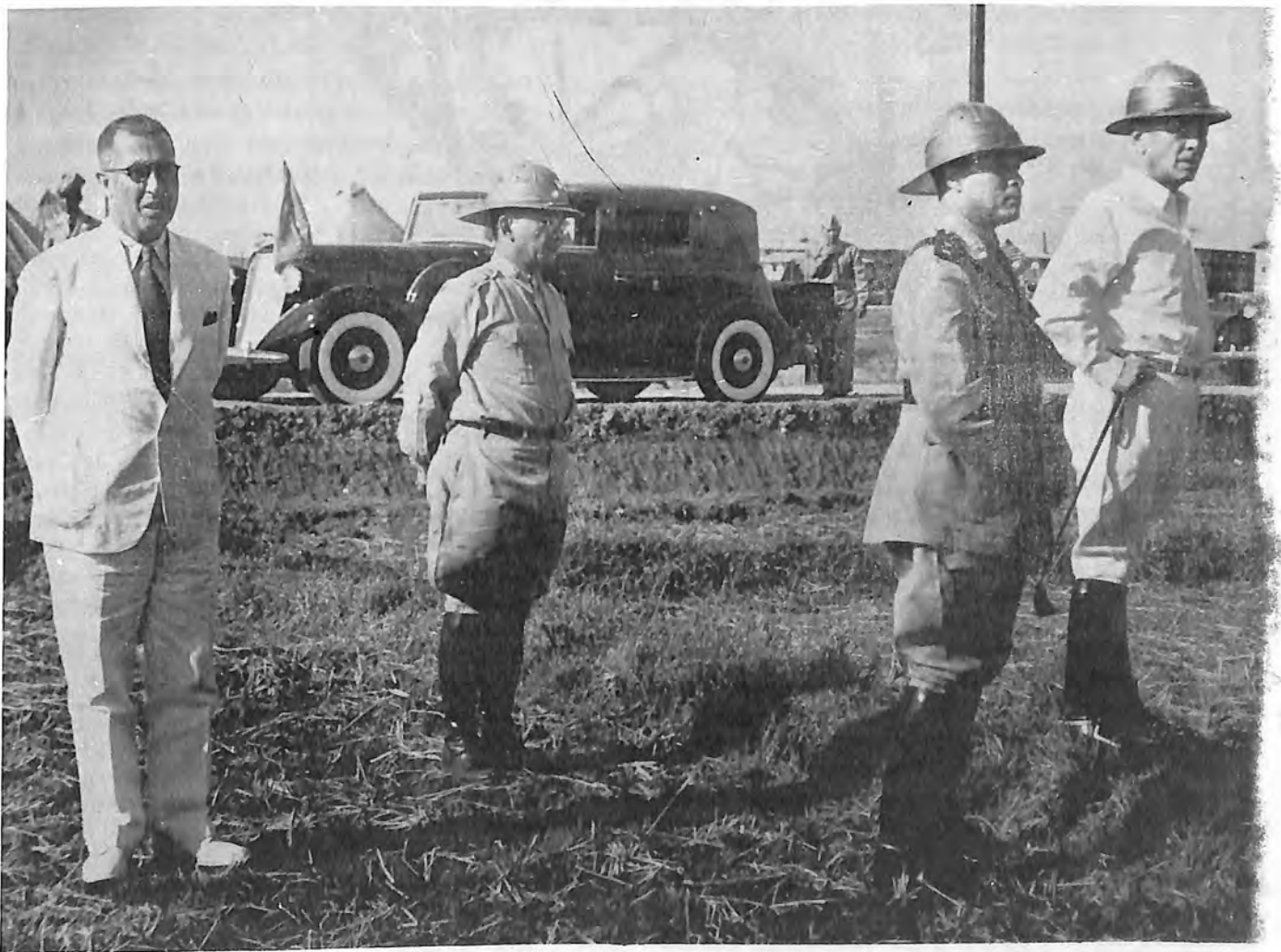
also been developed in the city's major thoroughfares, notably in Aurora Blvd., Epifanio de los Santos Avenue, E. Rodriguez Blvd. and Quezon Avenue. Already, secondary growth nodes have been identified for development, to serve as alternative commercial centers to the existing ones.

Another dominant characteristic of Quezon City, which perhaps sets it apart from other cities and municipalities in Metro Manila, is the presence of large and well maintained parks, simulated woodlands and open spaces for leisure and recreational purposes. Existing open areas include the parks and wildlife office, the botanical garden, the Bernardo Park, the Quezon Memorial Circle (which is given separate treatment in this magazine), and the La Mesa Dam Park. Preservation areas like the La Mesa Reservoir and Balara double as recreational areas. The city administration is eyeing on this characteristic of the city to enhance its identity. It being the only city in the region that can boast of its unspoiled natural setting, plans are afoot to make it the citadel of a true living environment — the "Garden City" of the metropolis.

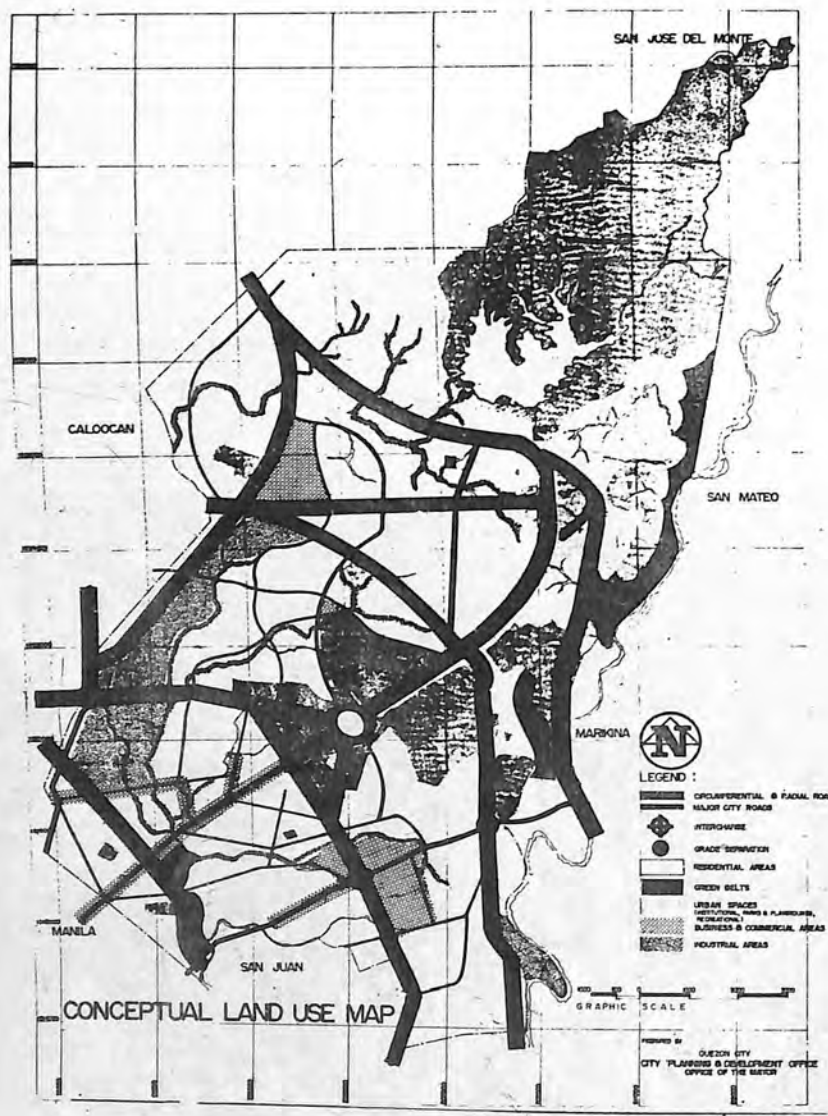
Presently, industrial development activities are concentrated in two areas of the city. One is located on the area bounded by the Marikina River, the Pasig boundary, E. Rodriguez Ave., and the J.M. Baesa Compound. A similar zone is also found in the area bounded by Damar Village, Bonifacio Subd. (south), the Caloocan-Quezon City boundary (west), the Tullahan Creek (east) and the proposed Republic Avenue (north). The approved land use plan for Quezon City encourages such type of development within the given boundaries.

Quezon City still has a lot of potentials for future development. The





*President Quezon inspecting the construction progress of the military camp. Beside him is Gen. Basilio Valdez, chief of staff. Behind him are former Quezon City Mayor Tomas Morato and Gen. Mateo Capinpin.*



foregoing description of built-up areas constitutes only 40% of its total land area of 153.6 square kilometers. A table is provided to give an overall picture of the extent of land development.

Land Use	Area (Sq. Km.)	(%)
Residential	46.53	28.0
Commercial	1.99	1.2
Open Space	3.32	2.0
Institutional	6.65	4.0
Industrial	7.98	4.8
Undeveloped Residential/ Institutional	87.13	60.0

This is Quezon City in a capsule form. At this stage of its development, it cannot be denied that its development has faithfully been inspired by the vision of its founder, and that its future growth, as envisioned in its conceptual development plan, is a fulfillment of his dream. The city administration is working towards this direction. On the 100th commemoration of the founder's birth, what better gift can be offered than this assurance that his descendants share his dream ardently, and are working towards its fulfillment. (LTC)

## QUEZON MEMORIAL CIRCLE: A TRIBUTE TO A BELOVED LEADER

**H**ow does a people express its gratitude to a leader who has championed its cause for freedom? How does a nation thank its President for espousing social justice, nationalism, and independence at a time when the country is struggling for nationhood?

The city government has proposed the

development of the Quezon Memorial Circle into a park to serve as a fitting gesture of gratitude to its leader, after which the park was named. Aptly termed as a Memorial, the park shall be a transformed into a national landmark in memory of his achievements and greatness as a nation's leader.



Entrance Promenade



Skating Rinks



Children's Playground



**Public Gardens**



**Park Sheds & Kiosks**



**Park Restaurant**

In addition to the existing Memorial Monument and foundation, the proposed development will include the following major elements: children's park and playground with skating rinks, bicycle routes, play structures like monocoques, totempoles, tree houses and other playground fixtures; a lagoon which can be stocked with fish for game for children, an aviary, an oceanarium, an open amphitheatre for cultural presentations, an exhibition gallery for continuing art display and exhibits, and a park restaurant to cater to the people visiting the park.

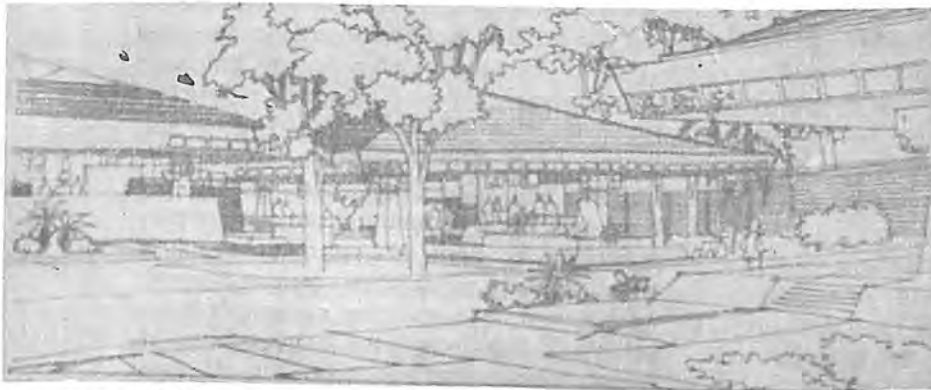
The concept is to develop the area as a natural setting for all these elements, which are interrelated by means of meandering pathways to simulate the natural growth of a woodland. This development becomes the backdrop for the Memorial Monument to enhance its formality and scale and to give it more life and meaning.

Multi-tiered platforms radiating from the existing fountain will be introduced. This will serve as the center of a number of circumferential pathways to be flanked by trees of different species. The areas in between the pathways will be developed





Amphitheatre



Art Galleries



Aviaries & Lagoon

into gardens and sitting areas.

From the wooded areas on the east, the Quezon Memorial Monument will stand in the background as a towering terminus on the west, appropriately draped by other wooded areas beyond the Elliptical Road.

Around the Monument will be large plots of flowering and ornamental plants on mounds designed to have a gentle rise from the periphery to a point where it frames a reflecting pool surrounding the monument. On the east, on the same axis as the monument and the fountain, is a Friendship Forest — an area to be planted with trees from different countries,

species which are compatible with the local climate.

The project implementation is programmed on a five-year basis and is estimated to cost P30 M. It is anchored upon the active participation of the public, in close partnership with the government. Upon completion, the park is expected to serve the needs of Metropolitan Manila residents and tourists for recreational and leisure facilities.

The city will provide for continued maintenance and supervision of the development of the entire area. It will be operated on a self-liquidating scheme. (LTC)

# QUEZON: AMA NG WIKANG PAMBANSA

ni Tinno Lapus

*"Maaaring gamitin nating pansamantala ang wikang banyaga, ngunit hindi tayo makapag-aangkin ng tunay na wikang pambansa kung hindi sa pagpili, paggamit at pagpapaunlad ng isang wikang sariling atin."*

Manuel Luis Quezon

Ang wika ay kaluluwa ng alinmang bansa. At sa ganang sa atin, ang Wikang Pilipino ang ating Pambansang Kaluluwa. Nasa wika ang pinakamabisang unawaan, pahatiran at ugnayan ng mga tao. Ang wika ang tagapaglahad at tagapag-larawan ng kaisipan at damdamin ng bawa't kinal. Sa katutubong wika naipadadama at naipalalaganap ang katutubong ugali, mga panuntunan at likas na kalinangan. Sa sariling wika nasusukat, napapatnubayan at nasasagisag ang pagtatamasa at pag-aangkin sa maraming kalayaan at makapangyarihang pagsasarili; hindi lamang ng isang bansa, kungdi maging ng kanyang mga mamamayan.

Naaalinsunod kaipala, sa gayong batayan, ang Pangulong Manuel L. Quezon, sa isang kalatas sa unang Asemblea Nasyunal nuong ika-27 ng Oktubre, 1936 ay kanyang pinanukala ang paglikha sa Surian ng Wikang Pambansa.

Ayon sa Pangulong Quezon, ang konstitusyon ay nagtatagubilin sa Batasang Bansa na gumawa ng hakbang tungo sa pagpapaunlad at paggamit ng isang karaniwang pambansang wika, batay sa isang umiiral nating wikain.

"Ang mamamayang may isang bansa at may isang lahi ay dapat magkaroon ng isang wikang sinasalita at nauunawaan ng lahat," ani Quezon at ang dugtong pa niyang sabi, "ang wika ang pinakamatibay na buklod ng bayan at magpapaunlad sa kaisahan ng pambansang mithiin, mga hangarin at ng damdaming pambansa."

Anupa't napatatag nga ang Surian ng Wikang Pambansa, sa bisa ng Batas ng Komonwel Blg. 184 at sinusugan ng Ba-

tas Blg. 333 upang magsagawa ng karampatang pag-aaral at pagpapasiya sa pagbabatayang salita ng wikang pambansa.

Kasudlong nito, ang Kautusang Tagapagpaganap Blg. 134 nuong Hunyo 18, 1938 ay nagpapahayag na Tagalog ang pagbabatayan ng wikang pambansa. At sa kasunod na kautusan Blg. 263 na pinagtibay ng Pangulong Quezon nuong ika-1 ng Abril, 1940 at iyon ay nag-aatas ng paglalaan ng pondo sa pagpapalimbag ng "Bokabularyong Ingles-Tagalog" at ng "Balarila ng Wikang Pambansa."

Pagpapatupad sa kautusan ng Pangulong Quezon, itinakda ng Kagawaran ng Paturuang Bayan nuon, ang pagtuturo ng Wikang Pambansa sa ika-4 na antas ng mataas na paaralang publiko at pribado at iyon ay magsasapul sa ika-19 ng Hunyo, 1940.

Ang Kawanihan ng Pagtuturo, nuong ika-15 ng Nobyembre, 1940 ay nag-utos din sa lahat ng mga tagapamanihala ng mga paaralan na magkaroon ng pitak sa Wikang Pilipino ang lahat ng mga pahayagang pampaaralan.

Batay pa rin sa Batas ng Komonwel Blg. 570, pinagtibay ng Kapulungang Bansa nuong Hunyo 7, 1940 at nilagdaan kaagad ng Pangulong Quezon, ang Wikang Pilipino ay itinalagang maging isa sa wikang opisyal ng Pilipinas at ang batas ay magkakabisa mula sa ika-4 ng Hulyo, 1946 o sa takdang araw ng pagkakaloob ng Estados Unidos sa ganap na kalayaan ng ating bansa. Sa panahon ding yaon ay itinakdang dapat na maging handa na ang mga aklat na pampaaralan sa pangangasiwa ng Kawanihan ng Pagtuturo at ang kaanyuan o kawastuhan ng mga salita ay



*"Ang mamamayang may isang bansa at isang lahi ay dapat magkaroon ng isang wika."*



nasa pagpapatibay ng Surian ng Wikang Pambansa.

Lahat ng Punong Tagapagpaganap na sumunod ng panunungkulan sa Pangulong Quezon ay pawang nagtaguyod sa mga adhikaing tungo sa lalo pang pagpapaulad at pagpapalaganap sa Wikang Pambansa.

Sa magkapanunod na panunungkulan nina Pangulong Osmeña, Roxas at Quirino ay nagsapul ang pagtuturo ng ating sariling wika sa lahat ng mababang paaralan sa buong bansa. Nang panahon ng mga Pangulong Magsaysay, Garcia at Macapagal dumagison ang paturuan hanggang sa mataas na paaralan sa buong bansa. Napatalaga na rin nuon ang taunang pagdiriwang sa Linggo ng Wika tuwing ika-13 hanggang ika-19 ng Agosto at nakatuon sa paggunita sa anibersaryo ng kaarawan ng Ama ng Wikang Pambansa, sa Pangulong Manuel L. Quezon.

Danga't ang lalong makatuturan marahil na pagpapahalaga at pagdakila sa Wikang Pilipino ay ang Kautusang Tagapagpaganap Blg. 187 ng Pangulong Ferdinand E. Marcos. Nilagdaan noong ika-19 ng Agosto, 1969 ang kautusan na nag-aatas sa lahat ng kagawaran, kawanihan, tanggapan at iba pang sangay ng pamahalaan na gamitin ang Wikang Pilipino sa lahat ng opisyal na komunikasyon at transaksyon ng pamahalaan. Kaugnay pa rin ng pagdakilang ito ay ang pagkakasulat din sa Wikang Pilipino ng Saligang Batas ng 1973.

Pagalinsunod pa rin sa simulain ni Quezon ukol sa sariling wika, ang Pangulo at Punong Ministro Marcos sa pagtanggap na opisyal ng mga embahador o sugo ng ibang bansa ay wika natin ang kanyang ginagamit. Kung Pilipino ang sinasalita niya sa mga dayuhan, higit niya itong ginagamit sa pakikipag-usap sa kanyang mga kababayan, saanmang panig ng bansa siya magtungo, kaugnay ng kanyang maseselang pananagutan.

"Ang pangarap ko," anang Pangulong Marcos kaugnay ng pagpaparangal sa kaarawan ng Pangulong Quezon nuong 1973, "ay makausap ng tuwiran ang pinaka-abang mamamayan saanmang sulok ng ating bansa sa pamamagitan ng ating katutubong wika. At sa gayong sukat ay mithiin ko rin na ang pinaka-abang mamamayang iyan ay tuwirang makapagpahayag ng kanyang naiisip at nadarama sa pamamagitan ng isang katutubong wika na bumubuklod sa atin." Ang pawakas na sabi nuon ng Pangulong Marcos, "Sa wari ko ay unti-unti nang nagaganap ang mithining iyon sa pamamagitan ng Wikang Pilipino. Nananawagan ako sa lahat na magkaisang-kilos tayo tungo sa ating kaluwahatiang pambansa. Ang Wikang Pambansa natin ay ang Pilipino. Sikapin nating yumabong, lumakas, maging matipuno at lubusang lumaganap ito sa bisa ng ating paggamit. Ang matagumpay na paglaganap nito ay isang dakilang gunita sa alaala ng Pangulong Quezon, ang Ama ng Wikang Pambansa."

Ang nagpasidhi sa pagnanasa ng Pangulong Quezon na magkaroon ng isang wikang magiging talastasan ng mga Pilipino ay iniulat na may kinalaman sa isang pangyayaring naganap sa Casiguran, sakop ng nuon ay lalawigang Tayabas (Quezon ngayon). Ayon sa salaysay ni Modesto Bantolan, punong potograpo ng Malakanyang nuon, ang baryong pinuntahan nila ay nararating lamang sa pamamagitan ng bangka. Ang nasabing pook ay pinamayanan ng mga Dumagat. Nang umahon daw sila sa dalampasigan, nagtakbuhan ang mga Dumagat. Hindi upang salubugin ang bagong Pangulo ng Komonwel, kungdi upang magsipagtago. Nagalit daw ang Pangulong Quezon. Pinatawag niya ang Tinyente del Baryo at ang mga gurong nayon at inutusan niyang tipunin ang mga tao sa loob ng paaralan ng baryo. Nang naroroon na ang mga mamamayan, nag-salita raw sa wikang Tagalog ang Pangulo.



anibersaryo ng kaarawan ng Pangulong Quezon nuong Agosto 19, 1959, ang Wikang Pambansa ay opisyal na kinilalang Wikang Pilipino.)

Aniya: "Paano ko malalaman ang inyong mga pangangailangan kung ako ay tinatakbuhan ninyo na animo ay nakakita ng isang dambuhala? Ako ay nagpilit mag-sadya rito upang tulungan kayo, hindi upang kayo ay takutin. Tayong lahat ay pawang Pilipino at magka-lalawigan pa naman tayo. Nais kong tuwirang marinig mula sa inyo ang inyong pangangailangan sa akin at sa pamahalaan."

Tahimik na tahimik daw ang mga tao. Ibinadya ng kanilang mga anyo na sila'y napaamo ng tila bato-balaning pangungusap ng Pangulong Quezon. Makaraan daw ang ilang sandali, umugong ang isang sigawang "Mabuhay ang Presidente." Kasunod nito, ang pinakapuno ng tribu, matapos humalik ng kamay sa Pangulo ay nangusap sa Tagalog-Dumagat: "Salamat po, Presidente. Tulong sa amin doktor at gamot."

Sa naganap na pangyayari ay tumuon daw sa isipan ng Pangulong Quezon ang bisa ng pakikipagtalastasan sa wikang sarili, lalo na sa ating mga karaniwang kababayan. Hindi nga raw naglipat buwan mula nuon, nagpadala siya ng kalatas sa Kapulungang Bansa at ipinanukalang lumikha ng isang suriang mag-aaral at magpapasiya ng wikang opisyal na sasalitain ng mga Pilipino.

Kaugnay ng pagkakapatibay sa nabanggit na nating Batas ng Komonwel Blg. 184 na lumikha sa Surian ng Wikang Pambansa, ang Pangulong Quezon sa pamamagitan ng kanyang Kautusang Tagapagpaganap Blg. 134 ay hinirang ang mga mangangasiwa sa nasabing Surian. Sila ay ang mga sumusunod: Jaime C. de Veyra (Samar-Leyte), 'tagapangulo; Santiago A. Fonacier (Ilokano), Filemon Sotto (Cebuano), Casimiro F. Perfecto (Bikol), Felix S. Salas Rodriguez (Panay-Bisaya) at Hadji Butu (Moro-Muslim), mga kagawad. Si Cecilio Lopez (Tagalog) ay hinirang na kagawad at kalihim ng surian...



*Si Pangulong Quezon sa harap ng mga mamamayan.*

Makaraan ang itinakdang panahon ng batas, nagpasiya nga ang Surian, na Tagalog ang pagbatayan ng Wikang Pambansa. Ang pagpapatupad sa kapasiyahan at ang paglalaan ng mga kaukulang gugulin ay kaagad na pinagtibay ng Pangulong Quezon. Ang lubusang pagpapalaganap sa Wikang Pambansa ang itinadhana ng Batas ng Komonwel Blg. 570 at nilagdaan ng Pangulong Quezon nuong ika-7 ng Hunyo, 1940.

(Ang paggamit sa "Pilipino" kapag tinutukoy ang Wikang Pambansa ay ang paksang tinurol ng Kautusang Pangkawaran Blg 7, nang nuo'y Kalihim Jose E. Romero ng Pagtuturo at iyon ay sa panahon ng panunungkulan ng yumaong Pangulong Carlos P. Garcia.)

## **ANG ATING WIKANG PAMBANSA NOON AT NGAYON**

*ni*

*Eduardo Ramos Bautista*

Gaano kahalaga ang pagkakaroon ng isang wikang pambansa? Ang pagkakaroon ng isang wikang pambansa ay napakahalaga lalo pa at kung ating lilimiin na ang ating bansa ay pulo-pulo at sa bawat rehiyon ay may ibang salita.

Kailangan natin ang isang wikang bibigkis sa ating magkakabalat mula sa Aparri hanggang Jolo. Ang suliraning ito ang nakatawag ng pansin ng yumaong Pangulong Manuel L. Quezon. Kaya siya nagpunyagi upang magkaroon ng kalutasan ang suliraning ito. Sapagkat kung mamalaging ganito ay parang nakikinita niya na tayong magkakababayan ay walang kaisahan, watak-watak at walang pagkakaintindihan.

Kaya ang ating mabunying pangulo ay bumuo ng isang lupon sa pamimili ng ating magiging wikang pambansa, at sa kalipunan ng mahigit na walumpong wikain (dialects) ay napili ang Tagalog. Dahil dito ay nagpalabas si Quezon ng isang kautusang pampangasiwaan na may bilang 134 na naghahayag ng pagkakaroon ng isang wikang pambansa na batay sa Tagalog. Noong 1939 ang batas ng Commonwealth Blg. 184 na nagtatadhana na ang Tagalog ay siyang pangunahing batayan ng Wikang Pambansa at nagtatatag ng isang Surian ng Wikang Pambansa ay nilagdaan din niya. Ang mga hakbanging ito ng Pangulong Quezon ay waring di pa rin nakasiya sa kanya, kaya ang Batas Commonwealth Blg. 263 na kanyang pinalabas ay nagtatakda ng kautusan ng pagtuturo ng Pilipino bilang asignatura sa mga paaralan at kanya ring nilagdaan ang batas blg. 570 na nagsasaad na ang wikang Pilipino ay magiging isa sa opisyal na wika sa Pilipinas.

Kung mayroon man laban sa wikang Pilipino ay higit na nakararami naman ang bilang ng mga nagmamalasakit dito. Sa katunayan ilang taon pa lamang ang nakararaan nang ang punong-lungsod sa Maynila ay nagpasimuno sa pagsasalin sa Tagalog. Katulad halimbawa ng city hall, Maharnilad na, ang overpass-underpass ay naging Lagusnilad at maging ang kanyang tungkuling alkalde ay lumalagapak na Gatpuno ang kinalabasan. At napakarami pang iba katulad ng mga karatula ng iba't ibang sangay ng pamahalaang lungsod. Maging ang ating pambansang pamahalaan ay nakiisa rin sa naturang pagsasalin, sinimulan nila ito sa iba't ibang kagawaran at kawanihan hanggang sa ating mga salapi maging papel o metal man ay sa wikang Pilipino na rin nalilimbag.

Ito ay patunay lamang na ang wikang Pilipino ay tinatanggap ng nakararami, marapat na payabungin natin ng ang wikang banyaga ay di na natin hiramín.

Namulat ang marami isang araw na tayo nga ay mayroong wikang sarili na

dapat gamitin at palaganapin. Salamat sa Diyos ang naibigkas ko, ito na marahil ang bunga ng pagpupunyagi ng Pangulong Quezon.

Sa paano'y walang pangingimi na ginagamit ang Pilipino maging ng mga taong "class." Dati-rati ay para sa mga katulong lamang sa bahay ang ating wika anila. At kapag ang kausap ay may sinasabing tao ay "habla Español" sila o dili naman kaya ay "king's English" ang gamit nila.

Sa larangan ng sining ay kapuna-punarin na nagkakaroong ng balani ang mga dulang-Tagalog katulad ng itinatanghal sa PETA maging sa mga "English speaking communities." Ang pelikulang pilipino na dati-rati ay para sa taong nakabakya lamang ay dinudumog na rin ngayon. Sa telebisyon, nangunguna naman ang mga palabas na nasa wikang Pilipino at upang makaalakbay ay nagsisikap ang iba na gumawa ng pamamaraan. Sa musika ay lalo na. Nariyan ang Juan de la Cruz na nagpasimuno sa kanilang "Ang Himig Natin" na sinundan ng pamamasyal sa Luneta ni Rico Puno na hinahabol naman ng Laki sa Layaw ni Mike Hanopol kasama ang mabangong si Sampaguita. At sa ngayon nga ay alam na alam maging ng mga batang paslit ang awiting "Anak" ni Freddie Aguilar, inaawit ng mayaman man o mahirap. Kayganda ng ating musika kapag aawitin sa sariling wika natin.

At ang misa ng Bayan, higit na makahulugan para sa mga mananampalataya ngayon hindi na tulad noong araw na sagot lamang ng sagot at dahil sa hindi naman natin naiintindihan ay nagiging tampulan pa ng biro maging ang banal na salita sa konsagrasyon. Nagugunita ko pa ang isa kong katanungan sa matanda sa bahay noon. "Bakit sa pakikipag-usap sa Diyos ay ibang dila ang gamit natin, hindi ba tayo mauunawaan ng Diyos kung sa ating wika natin siya kakausapin?"

At sa panimulang pag-aaral ay sinisikap na palitan ang pa-apple-apple at bayagang coloring book. Mayroong pagta-

tangkang isinasagawa ngayon ang isang pangkat ng mga manunulat sa pangunguna ng makatang si Virgilio Almario sa pagkikintal sa isipan ng mga bata ng kaisipang Pilipino. At ito ay sa pamamagitan ng paglulunsad ng mga kahanga-hangang Aklat Adarna ng NCP.

Ang bagong kamalayang ito sa ating wika ay masasabing bunga ng pagsisikap ng ating Pangulong Quezon. Kaya't saan man siya naroroon ay tiyak na maligaya siya sa nagaganap na kamulang ito.

Ang wika ay parang apoy buhusan mo at mamamatay, gatungan mo at lalong mag-aalab. Ihambing natin ang mga hakbangin ng Pangulong Quezon sa pagpaparingas ng apoy. Nagparingas siya noon na bagama't atay-atay lamang ang gatong noong nakaraang henerasyon ay di namatay ang apoy na iyon at nagatungan naman ng maliyab na kahoy na kinakatawan naman ng bagong kamalayan ngayon, natin... tungkulin natin bilang isang tunay na Pilipino na lumaging maging maalab nang ang apoy na pinaringas ng Pangulong Quezon ay mamalaging nag-aapoy.

*"Show me a people composed of vigorous, sturdy individuals, of men and women healthy in mind and body; courteous, brave, industrious, self-reliant, purposeful in thought as well as in action; imbued with sound patriotism and a profound sense of righteousness; with high social ideals and a strong moral fiber; and I will show you a great nation . . . that will emerge victorious from the trials and bitter strifes of a distracted world..."*

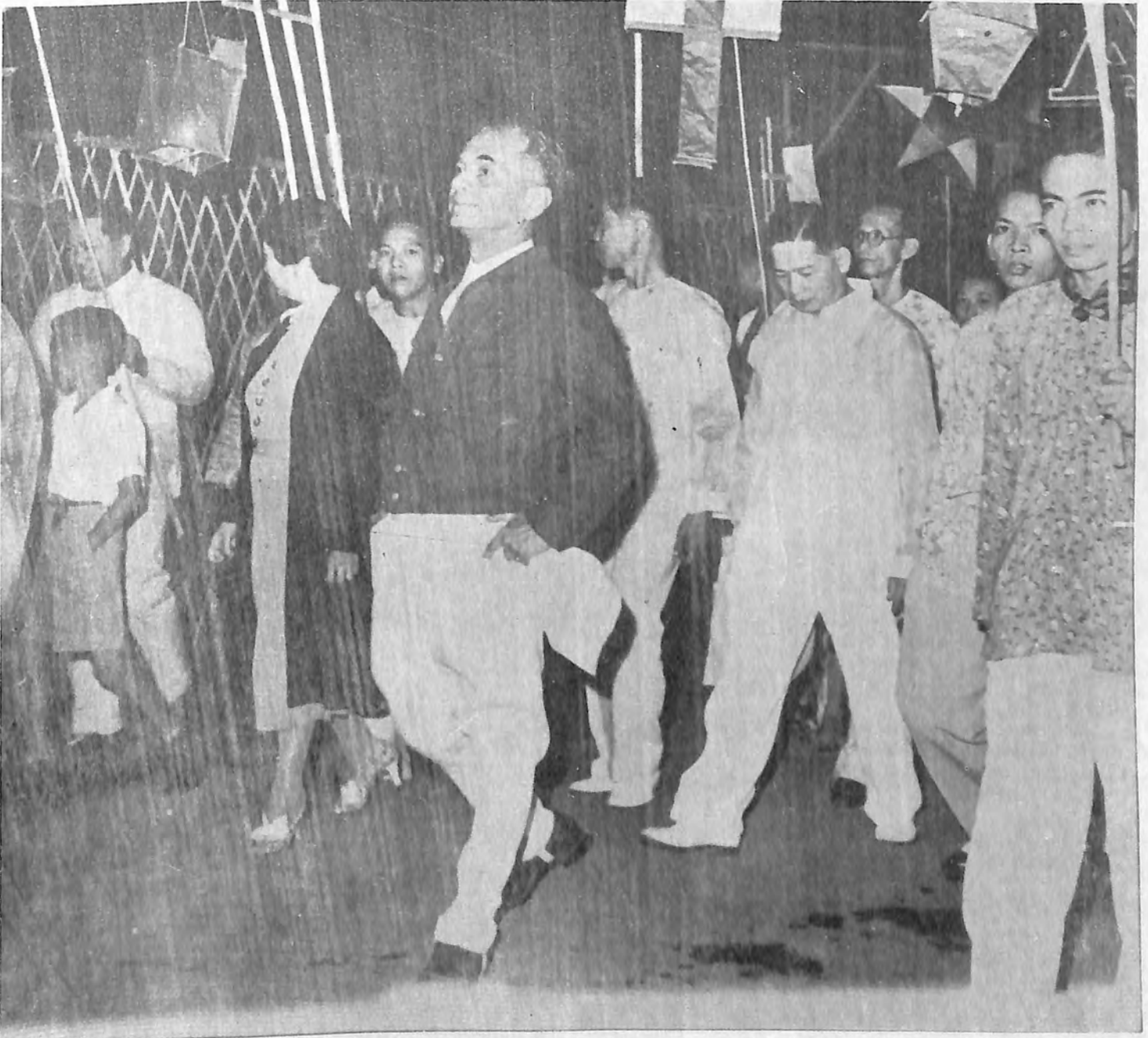
**MANUEL L. QUEZON**

**THE LEGEND THAT IS...**





*The "Star of Baler" joins a procession in Arayat Pampanga.*



*"... civility is the consummate flower of culture and civilization for it embraces all the virtues and in turn sustains and enhances them all."*



*A lover of life and things beautiful. A meticulous dresser and a good dancer.*

*Top photo shows President and Mrs. Quezon in a Malacañang reception with Secretary Vargas and former President Elpidio Quirino.*

*Right, the first couple welcome U.S. High Commissioner Mc Nutt.*

*Opposite page: "One of the ten best dressed men in the world," according to John Gunther, author of Inside Asia.*









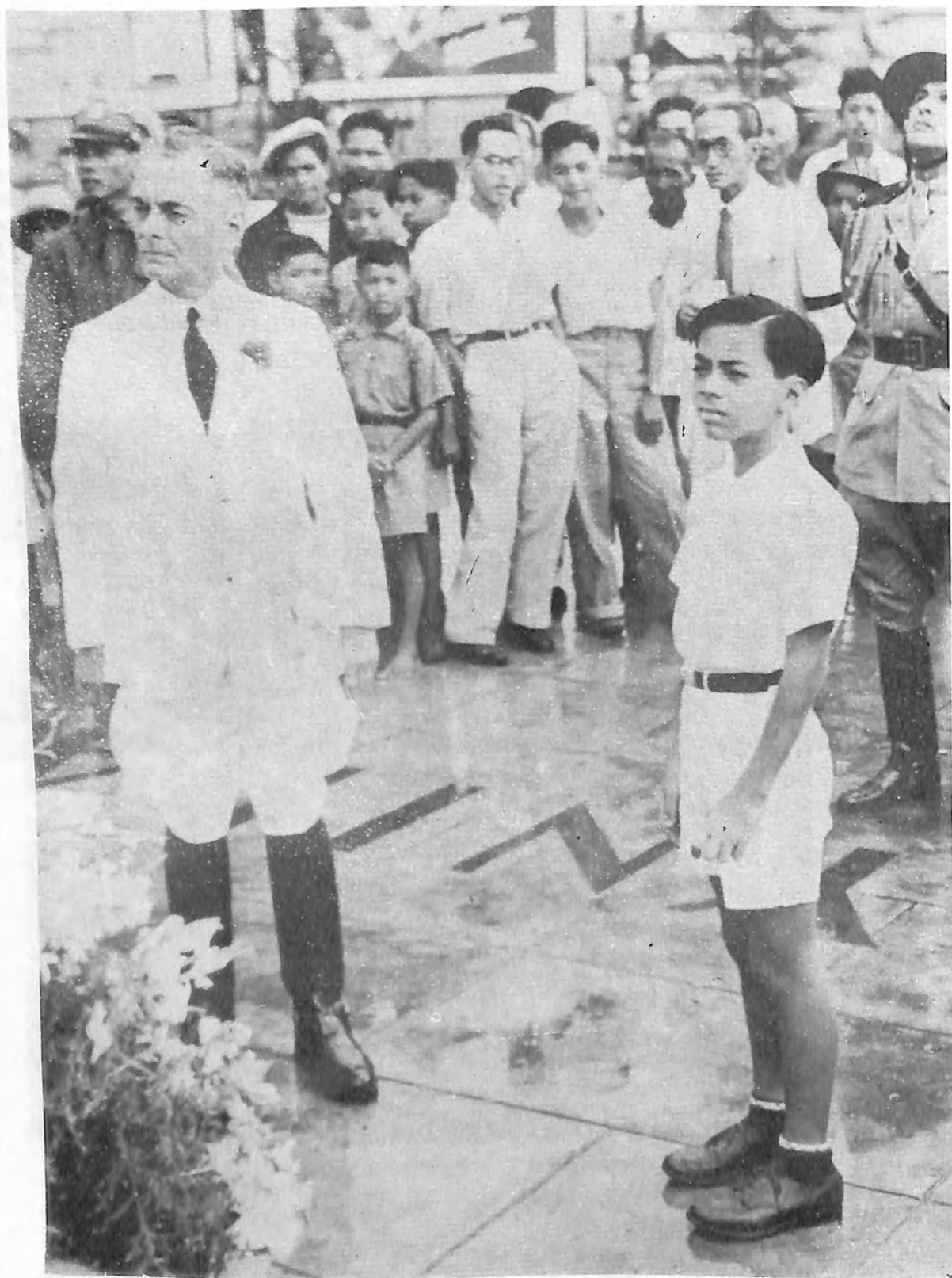
*Pres. Quezon observed no regular hours and followed no definite pattern of activities. He ate when he was hungry and slept when he felt drowsy — habits all too familiar with persons close to him like his Executive Secretary Jorge Vargas and Senior Aide Manuel Nieto, shown above keeping pace with the President.*



*"Individual liberty is based on the capacity to support one's self. A man unable to support himself is a slave, though he may not want to be one. It is foolish to speak to independence, of liberty, if one cannot maintain that independence, that liberty."*



*President Quezon listening to Sen. Benigno Aquino, Sr. with Secretary Vargas and Justice Secretary Jose Yulo, Sr.*



*President Quezon with son Nonong.*

*"As a good father, I do not want my children to suffer the hunger and privation that I suffered. I do not want them to be 'shirtless' as their father had been, not because to be poor is a dishonor, but because it is hard."*



*The President takes to farming at his Kaledian farm in Arayat, Pampanga.*



*"I want our people to grow and be like the molave, strong and resilient, rising on the hillside, unafraid of the raging flood, the lightning, or the storm, confident of its own strength."*



*Regaling the crowd at the Luneta.*





*"We have just laid the foundation of the new edifice, faithfully carrying out the mandates of the Constitution. We have erected the supporting pillars foursquare within the guideposts and landmark traced in that great document. Just how well we have succeeded thus far is not for us to judge but for posterity to decide."*



*President Quezon delivering a speech — an audio-visual experience.*

# 1978 - MANUEL L QUEZON NATIONAL CENTENNIAL YEAR

A centennial is always an occasion to celebrate as it marks an epochal event in the history of man or nation.

August 19, 1978 is the 100th birth anniversary of Manuel L. Quezon — Father of Philippine Independence, Champion of Social Justice, Patriot, Statesman. As a fitting tribute to the great leader, President and Prime Minister Ferdinand E. Marcos issued Proclamation No. 1726 declaring 1978 as Manuel L. Quezon Centennial Year and designating the National Historical Institute to take charge of the celebration. He also issued Executive Order No. 502 creating the Executive Committee headed by Don Pio Pedrosa (see page 81 for complete committee membership) to plan and execute this year's commemorative activities.

Recognizing the enormous task ahead, the Executive Committee created subcommittees to take charge of the particulars of the various activities (see page 84).

Quezon City, President Quezon's dream city, ushered the year-long celebration with a symposium on "Quezon's Social and Political Legacy to the Filipino Nation" on February 28, 1978. The Ministry of Educa-

tion, with the intent of inculcating upon the youth the invaluable contribution of President Quezon to the political emancipation of the nation and the enhancement of national growth, has scheduled nationwide week-long (Aug. 14--20) celebration revolving around the theme, "Manuel L. Quezon's Legacy to the New Society."

The Executive Committee through its respective subcommittees is conducting a nationwide competition on Painting, Sculpture, Music, Oration and Literature (Essay) depicting the life of President Quezon. Prizes at stake are the following:

	Painting	Sculpture
First Prize	P7,000.00	P7,000.00
Second Prize	5,000.00	5,000.00
Third Prize	3,000.00	3,000.00
Two Honorable Mentions	— P1,000.00 each	
High School		
First Prize	P1,500.00	P1,500.00
Second Prize	1,000.00	1,000.00
Third Prize	500.00	500.00

Three Honorable Mentions — P200.00 each



*Guest speakers during the symposium include Ambassador Jose Laurel III, Hon. Emilio Abello and Minister Carlos P. Romulo. Also in photo are Mrs. Nini Quezon-Avancaña, Mayor Adelina S. Rodriguez and NHI Chairman Esteban de Ocampo.*

### Collegiate

First Prize	₱1,500.00	₱1,500.00
Second Prize	1,000.00	1,000.00
Third Prize	500.00	500.00

### Three Honorable Mentions — ₱300.00 each Choral Composition

First Prize	₱7,000.00
Second Prize	5,000.00
Third Prize	3,000.00

### Three other prizes — ₱500.00 each

Deadline for submission of entries will be on November 2, 1978 Awarding of prizes will be held at the Carlos Albert Session Hall, Quezon City Hall on November 15 to coincide with the 43rd anniversary of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. The Awarding Ceremonies will cap the one-day congress on "President Quezon's Role in Nation Building" that is scheduled on the same day at the same place. All inquiries regarding the above-mentioned contests may be directed to the 1978 MLQ Centennial Secretariat Office, 4th floor, Publications Division, The National Library, T.M. Kalaw st., Manila.

The Quezoniana state papers which include messages, speeches and other manuscripts will be collated and edited for possible publication. Undertaking this activity is the Subcommittee on Quezoniana papers. The Subcommittee on Quezoniana Publication, on the other hand, is evaluating written works on President Quezon submitted to the Executive Committee for possible inclusion in the Quezoniana literature that is proposed to be compiled.

The National Media Production Center has prepared a documentary film, the first portion of which is about President Quezon. It will be shown on TV and movie theatres. The Central Bank Monetary Board has approved the minting of twenty-five and fifty-peso coins featuring the portrait of Manuel L. Quezon and the Bureau of Post

is issuing MLQ centenary stamps and postal folders.

The center of August 19 celebration is the Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City where the towering Quezon Monument is located. At the monument's basement is the Quezon museum (where a Quezoniana exhibit is being held) and mausoleum where President Quezon's remains will be transferred from the North Cemetery. It is significant to note that the same flag used during his burial in 1946 is being used for this solemn occasion.

The town of Baler, Aurora Subprovince, birthplace of the late President has started their festivities as early as July 31 with the coronation of Miss Donna Buenconsejo as Miss MLQ Centennial Celebration by Mrs. Zeneida Quezon Avanceña. They have been having diana, mass, parade and cultural presentations daily up to August 20.

Lucena City, capital of Quezon province has lined up activities beginning August 13 which include civic parade, opening of the *Gintong Yaman ng Quezon*, unveiling of the MLQ Photo Gallery Mansion House, coronation of *Lakambini Ng Quezon*, sports tournament, on-the-spot painting contest, oratorical contest and helicopter show among others. Highlight of the one week celebration is the Awards Ceremony and Testimonial Dinner in honor of the outstanding Quezonians of 1978.

All over the country, cities, towns and barrios will observe in various manners the birth centenary of the man whose greatest gift to the Filipino nation was the priceless legacy of freedom with dignity.

But the best way to observe the Manuel L. Quezon birth centenary is to remember him in our hearts and resolve within ourselves to live up to his ideals and aspirations. It was he himself who once said that a nation reveres its heroes best by being "strong, dynamic and free. He has laid the foundation. It is up for us to carry on.



**The 1978 MLQ National Centennial Celebration  
Executive Committee**



**Hon. Pio Pedrosa  
Chairman**



**Hon. Jorge B. Vargas  
Co-Chairman**



**Hon. Emilio M. Abello  
Co-Chairman**



**Hon. Aniceto Alcala  
Co-Chairman**



Hon. Luis Etcubañez  
Vice-Chairman



Hon. Estrello T. Ong  
Vice-Chairman



Hon. Adelina S. Rodriguez  
Vice-Chairman



Hon. Juan L. Manuel  
Vice-Chairman



Hon. Jose A. Roño  
Vice-Chairman



Hon. Juan Ponce Enrile  
Member



Hon. Cesar A. Virata  
Member



Rev. Pacifico F. Ortiz  
Member



Hon. Serapio D. Cancaran  
Member



Hon. Esteban A. de Ocampo  
Member

# 1978 MANUEL L. QUEZON NATIONAL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

## SUBCOMMITTEES

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON PAINTING COMPETITION

Chairman	—	Dean Jose Joya College of Fine Arts University of the Philippines	
Interim Chairman	—	Mrs. Virginia Flor Agbayani Associate Dean College of Fine Arts University of the Philippines	
Members	—	Prof. Felipe Padilla de Leon, Jr. Department of Humanities College of Arts and Sciences	Prof. Florencio Concepcion College of Fine Arts University of the East

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**SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOUVENIR PROGRAM**  
August 1978



*" One could not say a word to add to the stature — intellectual and spiritual — of MANUEL LUIS QUEZON. That is an impossibility. We might as well attempt to retouch a masterpiece done by an immortal. "*

Justice Frank Murphy  
Former Governor General  
of the Philippines